



Warren Hastings

INDIAN RECORDS SERIES

FORT WILLIAM—INDIA HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE

AND OTHER CONTEMPORARY PAPERS
RELATING THERETO

VOL. XV

FOREIGN AND SECRET

1782-1786

EDITED BY

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AND

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PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL¹

1784-86

Date of Letters Patent

Sydney, Rt Hon Baron (later Viscount)

4 September 1784

CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY²

1782-86

<i>Year</i>		<i>Chairman</i>		<i>Deputy Chairman</i>
1782	.	Gregory, Robert		Fletcher, Henry (later Sir) ³
1783	..	Fletcher, Sir Henry		Smith, Nathaniel ⁴
1784		Smith, Nathaniel	..	Devaynes, William
1785	..	Devaynes, William		Smith, Nathaniel
1786	.	Michie, John		Motteux, John

DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY⁵

1782-86

Atkinson, Richard	Jan 1784-5 (died, June 1785).
Baring, Francis	. 1779-82, 1784-7, 1789-92, 1794-7, 1799-1802, 1804-7, 1809-10
Bensley, William	Oct. 1781-4, 1786-9, 1791-4, 1796-9, 1801-4, 1806-9.
Boddam, Charles	. 1769, 1772-5, 1777-80 1782-4
Boehm, Edmund	1784-7

1 The particulars given here and in the lists that follow are based on the *Record of Services of the Honourable East India Company's Civil Servants in the Madras Presidency, 1741-1858* (London, 1885) compiled by Charles C Prinsep, the *Alphabetical List of Directors of the East India Company from 1758 to 1858* compiled by C H and D. Philips and published in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, October 1941, and the *List of the Heads of Administrations in India and of the India Office in England* (Imperial Record Department, 1939).

2 Normally appointed each April

3 Robert Gregory being disqualified, the Court appointed Henry Fletcher Chairman on 31 July 1782 and Nathaniel Smith Deputy Chairman on 1 August 1782

4 As Henry Fletcher was disqualified, Nathaniel Smith was appointed Chairman on 26 November 1783 and William Devaynes Deputy Chairman on the next day

5. At each election in April, six Directors were chosen for four years in the place of six going out by rotation. In the event of the death or retirement of a Director his successor took over the unexpired term of office. In this list the figures indicate the years of election

Booth, Benjamin	1767 70 1772-3 1775-8, 1780-3
Bosanquet Jacob	Aug 1782 3, 1785-8 1790-3, 1795-8 1800-3 1805-8 1810 13 1815-18 1820-3 1825-6
Burgess John Smith	1773-4 1776-9 1781-4, 1786 9, 1791-4 1796-0 1801-3
Cheap Thomas	Aug 1777 8 1780-3 1785-8 1790-3
Cuming George	1764-7 1769 72 Dec 1773 7 1779 82 1785-7
Darell Lionel	1780-3 1785 8 1790-3 1795 8 1800-3
Devaynes William	1770-5 1777 80 1782 5 1787 90, 1792 5 1797 1800 1802-5
Elphinstone William Fullarton	Dec 1786-9 1791-4 1796-9 1801 4 1806-9 1811-4 1816-9 1821 4
Fitzhugh, Thomas	Aug 1785 1787 90 1792 5 1797 9
Fletcher Henry	1769, 1771-5 1777 80 1782 3 (re- signed Nov 1783)
Gregory Robert	1760-72 1775-8, 1780-2 (resigned Aug. 1782)
Hall Richard	1773-4 1776-9 1781 4 1786 (died Dec 1786)
Harrison John	1758 61, 1763-6 1768-71 1773-7 1779-82
Hunter, John	1781-4 1786 9, 1791-4 1796-9, 1801 2
Inglis Hugh	1784 7 1789 92 1794 7, 1799- 1802 1804-7, 1809-12
James William	1768 71 1773-6 1778 81 1783 (died Dec. 1783)
Johnstone George	Jan 1784 5
Lemesurier, Paul	1784 7 1789-92 1794-7, 1799- 1802 1804-5
Lushington Stephen	1782 5 1787 90 1792-5 1797 1800 1802 5
Manahip John	1755-8, 1762-5 1767 1769 1770 72, Dec 1773-7 1779 82 1784-7 1789-92 1791-7, 1799-1802 1804 7 1809
Michie John	1770-5 1777-80, 1783-6 1788
Mills Charles	Aug 1 1785-6, 1788-91 1793-6, 1798-1801, 1803 6 1808-11, 1813 4.

Mills, William	.. 1778-81, 1783-5 (disqualified, Aug. 1785).
Moffat, James	1774-7, 1779-82, Dec 1784-5, 1787-90.
Motteux, John	1769, 1784-7.
Parry, Thomas	.. Oct. 1781, 1783-6, 1788-91, 1793-6, 1798-1801, 1803-6
Robarts, Abraham	March 1786, 1786, 1788-91, 1793-6, 1798-1801, 1803-6, 1808-11, 1813-5.
Roberts, John	1764-7, 1769 72, 1775-8 Nov. 1780-3, 1785-8, 1790-3, 1795-8, 1800-3, 1805-8
Savage, Henry	. 1755-8, 1760-2, 1764-7, 1770-7, 1779-82.
Smith, John	.. <i>See</i> Burgess, John Smith
Smith, Nathaniel	.. 1774-5, 1777-80, 1782-5, 1787-90, 1792-4
Smith, Samuel	.. 1783-6 (disqualified, July 1786).
Sparkes, Joseph	1773 4, 1776-9, 1781-4, 1786 9
Sullivan, Laurence	1755-8 1760-1, 1763-4, 1769, 1771-72, 1778-81, 1783-5 (died, Feb 1786).
Tatem, George	.. 1772-4, 1776-9, 1781-4, July 1786, 1788-91, 1793-6, 1798-1801.
Townson, John	.. March 1781, 1781-3, 1785-8, 1790-3, 1795-6.
Travers, John	.. 1786-9, 1791-4, 1796-9, 1801-4, 1806-9.
Wilkinson, Jacob	1782-3 (resigned, Nov 1783).
Woodhouse, John	. 1768-71, 1773-6, 1778-81, Jan 1784-6, 1788-90

GOVERNORS GENERAL OF FORT WILLIAM, BENGAL

1782-86

Hastings, Warren	20 October 1774—8 February 1785.
Macpherson, John (later Sir)	.. 8 February 1785—12 September 1786 (Acting)
Earl Cornwallis (later created Marquess)	.. 12 September 1786—10 October 1793.

MEMBERS OF BOARD, FORT WILLIAM, BENGAL

1782-86

Wheler, Edward	.. 11 December 1777—10 October 1781.
----------------	--------------------------------------

Coote, Lieut.-Gen Sir Eyre (Commander in-Chief)	24 March 1779—26 April 1783
Macpherson John (later Sir)	1 October 1781—8 February 1785
	12 September 1786—17 January 1787 (Acted as Governor General
	8 February 1785—12 September 1786)
Stables, John	11 November 1782—19 January 1787
Stuart, Hon. Charles	28 February 1785—21 January 1793
Sloper, Lieut.-Gen Robert (Commander-in-Chief)	21 July 1785—12 September 1786

GOVERNORS OF THE PRESIDENCY OF FORT ST GEORGE

1782-86

Macartney, Rt Hon Baron	22 June 1781—8 June 1785
Davidson Alexander	14 June 1785—6 April 1786 (Acting)
Campbell Maj.-Gen Sir Archibald (also Commander in Chief)	6 April 1786—6 February 1789

GOVERNORS OF THE PRESIDENCY OF BOMBAY

1782 86

Hornby, William	26 February 1771—1 January 1784
Boddam, Rawson Hart	1 January 1784—9 January 1788

INTRODUCTION

LETTER FROM THE COURT OF DIRECTORS

The crisis in East India Company's affairs Between 1782 and 1786 East Indian politics in London came to a climax. In these years the campaign in Parliament to bring the East India Company and its servants under the control of the state was finally decided. In these years, too, Henry Dundas emerged politically as the friend of Pitt and as the best informed minister on East India Affairs, not only making himself master of the new Board to control the Company but also imposing a coherent policy. The moment was opportune for such decision. In East and West, Britain had made peace with her enemies, especially France. In India the English East India Company had asserted its power but had also fought to a standstill, so that the governments in London and Calcutta prayed for a period of peace in which to recover. Looking to the future the best they hoped for was that the Company should continue in India as one among a number of country powers. What they could not discern was that their opponents were even more exhausted. Indeed, economically the Company had already beaten its European rivals and politically it had taken the measure of the Indian states.

Nature of these documents The documents published here do not themselves give a clear picture of all these main developments. For one thing they cannot form a coherent body of material. In those days it took anything from three to nine months to get a message to India and a reply might take two years or more, so that necessarily there are in this volume a number of letters without answers. Moreover, these dispatches and letters constitute the most formal type of material. They record the conclusions reached by Council or Committee on East India policy with an occasional account of action taken. Of the actual debates in Council, or the interchange of private correspondence between Ministers and Directors in London or between the President of the Board of Control and the Governor General we find no direct record. Unless we reach far beyond these documents we can learn nothing of the battles on policy between competing groups in the India House, or of the struggle of Dundas to bring the India House under his control. To give meaning to this selection of documents, to describe the full scope and nature of East India affairs in London and Calcutta, we have to go to the Hastings-Sullivan correspondence in the British Museum, to the minutes of the Secret Committee and the Secret Board of Control in the Commonwealth Relations Office (former India Office) Record Department, and to the Chatham and Cornwallis Papers at the Public Record Office in London.

On a strict system of accounting, the East India Company in 1783-84 was on the verge of bankruptcy. Well-informed and shrewd

Directors like Francis Baring and Laurence Sullivan knew this to be so and many others in London outside the Company suspected it. It was this feeling associated with the political resentment invoked by the power that Warren Hastings was wielding in India and by the evidence of exploitation and rascally behaviour of many of the Company's servants that brought about an East India crisis in these years in London. The Select Committee and the Secret Committee of the House of Commons under Burke and Dundas respectively had amassed evidence and papers that demanded discussion and could not but result in a reorganisation of the system of East India government. But this was bound to be particularly difficult because of the complex and confused state of both English and Indian politics in London. We must therefore briefly turn to the English political scene.

English politics in London After the fall of Lord North's Administration in March 1782 there followed the Rockingham Ministry made up of a loose and uneasy alliance of different groups, the most prominent of which was led by Lord Shelburne. Not unexpectedly this Government fell to pieces with Rockingham's death in July 1782 and was succeeded by Shelburne's own temporising Ministry. He needed the support of the adherents of either Rockingham, now led by Charles Fox or of North but in fact he was finally supplanted in February 1783 by an unexpected coalition of Fox and North. This alliance had been made in defiance of the King's expressed wish and after a few months of power it was overthrown by a coup which had the support of the King. A new man the younger William Pitt was encouraged to form a minority government which in fact held on grimly to power until the carefully managed general election of 1784 gave it a firm majority and the country a stable government. With the Pitt Ministry came in Henry Dundas, who had great ambitions of directing East India affairs in London. In short from 1782 to 1784 the English political world was preoccupied with its own struggles in which the East India problem was inextricably caught up. The East India problem itself moreover was conceived rather as a question of stabilising the Company's finances and rearranging its system of government than as a question of the use and future of British power and policy in India.

India House politics The confusion in Westminster was reflected in the struggle for power in the India House in Leadenhall. Power groups in Westminster had their followers in Leadenhall. After North's fall the Rockingham supporters among the Directors and Proprietors got a slight numerical superiority over those who had formerly supported North. But on important matters the latter group perhaps through the skill and experience of the old Director Laurence Sullivan the uncrowned King of Leadenhall could usually rally other small groups around them either in the Court of Directors or in the Court of Proprietors. Thus an attempt sponsored by Dundas in April 1782 in the House of Commons to bring about the dismissal of Warren Hastings was voted down in the

Court of Proprietors A similar effort six months later was even more crushingly rejected, as was an attempt in March 1783 to exclude Sullivan, Warren Hastings's chief supporter, from the direction itself. All these struggles came to a head when the Fox-North Ministry in November 1783, produced an organised attack on the Company in the form of an East India Bill. Under this frontal attack on the Company the Court of Directors went to pieces. The Chairman, Sir Henry Fletcher (who was himself to benefit under the bill), felt obliged to resign and finally the Proprietors took matters into their own hands by entrusting the Company's defence to a special committee of nine of which Sullivan was one of the members and Richard Atkinson, a new comer to East India politics, the link between the committee and the politicians who were gathering round Pitt. The Committee hastily got together a defence of the Company, and we may note that its members and Pitt's inner circle of supporters, appear to have acted on the assumption that full support for Warren Hastings's policy in India would be forthcoming. On 17 December the House of Lords at the King's call threw out the Fox-North bill and on the following day the Pitt minority administration came in. Acting quickly Pitt and Dundas got the Directors to agree to a new East India bill but when they took it to the Commons it failed in the face of Fox's continuing majority. However, Pitt continued to gain strength in the Commons and the carefully managed general election of 1784 produced a majority for him. Throughout the campaign the Company's interests were active, a number, for example, getting themselves into Parliament.

For the next few months the Directors and Proprietors were busy negotiating the new East India bill with the Ministry. Pitt and Dundas, through Atkinson, appeared to have changed their attitude to the Sullivan-Hastings alliance and they made it clear that no ministerial support for Sullivan (and presumably also for Warren Hastings too) would be given. Sullivan therefore turned openly hostile, and the Ministry's attempt to gain a majority among the Directors in the April election of Directors failed in the face of Sullivan's attitude. Perhaps for this reason, and also for the support certain East India interests had given him in the general parliamentary election of 1784, Pitt's Act was far more of a compromise favourable to the Company than either the early drafts or Fox's previous bill had indicated as likely.

Pitt's India Act As it finally stood the Act empowered a Board of Commissioners (usually called the Board of Control) to supervise the civil and military government of the Company. If necessary the Board could transmit orders to India concerning war or peace or negotiations with the Indian states through the Secret Committee of the Directors. The Court of Directors retained control of the East India patronage and the commercial administration. It could also nominate the Governor General and governors and commanders in chief, and both the Court and the Board could recall them. In India the authority of the Governor

General in Council over the subordinate presidencies was greatly enlarged

The members of the new Board in London were appointed on 30 August and not until then was it possible for either the Directors or Ministers to give serious detailed consideration to the future of the Company's policy in India

In effect then from the period of the formation of the Fox North coalition in April 1783 which coincided with the negotiation for peace with France right down to the autumn of 1784 Indian politics in London had been in a state of turmoil In these circumstances it was not to be expected that the Court of Directors through its Secret Committee would be able to do more than issue the most necessary instructions or information such as the proposed terms for peace or secret shipping orders to commanders Not until the spring of 1785 do we find the Secret Committee beginning to issue detailed orders affecting the future of the Company in India, and not until the despatch of 22 September 1785 do we find signs that all aspects of policy have been considered together and a general line of policy decided on

As we should expect policy at Calcutta in this period 1782-86 tended to come to a standstill Largely by the insight and exertions of Hastings the Company had been saved It had fought itself to the point of exhaustion and therefore welcomed peace Hastings left India in February 1785 and the caretaker governor generalship of John Macpherson followed Peace, retrenchment and reform became the order of the day A general stocktaking followed but whereas under Hastings the focus of policy lay in Calcutta after Pitt's India Act and down to the arrival of the new Governor General, Cornwallis in September 1786 the centre of activity was rather to be found in London

The role of Henry Dundas In London Indian politics between 1784 and 1786 are chiefly remarkable for the emergence of a new arbiter in Henry Dundas Dundas had come to the front politically through his enterprising chairmanship of the Secret Committee on Indian affairs From his study of the Company's affairs he apparently conceived a great future for himself as Indian minister and it was not without significance that his Committee's first though abortive Indian bill of March 1783 provided for a Secretary of State for India Pitt's first India bill which Dundas took a hand in formulating also included this proposal but in his second and final bill Pitt to placate the Company abandoned the proposal in favour of the weaker Board of Control Nevertheless, Dundas did not abandon his aim, and within two years by unremitting effort and no little skill he succeeded in raising himself from the position of a junior member to the eminence of the leading commissioner This was not achieved without a struggle especially with the Company From beginning to end his most bitter opponents were the Sullivanites both in the Courts of Directors and Proprietors They opposed the whole of his policy and set themselves to thwart his every move

The struggle in practice turned on the attitude to be taken towards

Hastings's governor generalship Sullivan was firmly for Hastings, whereas Dundas ever since the days of the Secret Committee had shown himself antagonistic. For him it was perhaps more than a struggle over principle. He made no bones about his dislike of Hastings and apparently suspected him as a rival in Indian affairs. It is certainly noteworthy that the gossip writers Wraxall, Bland-Burges and Bulkeley all record that Dundas feared that Hastings would get a seat on the Board of Control on his return. Hastings himself was looking forward to political employment at home and in this he was encouraged by Lord Thurlow who was a member of the cabinet and by the fact that the King was known to be strongly disposed in his favour.

Dundas could hardly have ignored these considerations, but, even if he had been so disposed, the behaviour of Sullivan's and Hastings's supporters in the Courts of Directors and Proprietors forced him to weigh up the demonstrated power of Hastings at the India House very carefully. Indeed the clash between Dundas and the Hastings's group both in Leadenhall and in Westminster must have reinforced even if it did not precipitate the decision of Pitt and Dundas to favour the impeachment of Hastings. However, this matter has been fully discussed elsewhere¹ and we need not touch further on it here. Between 1784 and 1786 on almost every East India issue of importance Hastings's interest ran counter to Dundas's policy. The orders that were sent out from London are given in letters Nos. 17-26.

They cover among other matters the settlement of the Carnatic debts, the negotiation of treaties with European powers, the interpretation of the treaty of Versailles, and the reorganisation of the India House committee system, but these documents, valuable though they are, do not reveal the struggle on policy that usually preceded them or the motives of the conflicting parties.

The Arcot debts. The Board's beginning was inauspicious, perhaps because it had to plunge into one of the thorniest of all problems, the Arcot debts which "had distracted the settlement of Madras these twenty years past". Dundas's Parliamentary Committee had considered the problem, Pitt's India Act had ordered an immediate examination of it, and the agents of the Nawab and of the creditors were busy agitating for a settlement. John Call, the leading agent of the creditors, appeared to have the ear of Dundas. There were two questions immediately at issue, on the one side the payment of the Nawab's vast debts which were owing partly to the Company and partly to private creditors, and on the other the fact that in 1781 Macartney, Governor of Madras, had assumed for the Company the administration of the Carnatic revenues. Hastings had ordered the restoration of the Nawab's revenues but Macartney had refused and appealed to London.

In the summer of 1784 the Chairman of the Directors, Nathaniel Smith, possibly prompted by Sullivan, proposed to support Hastings against

1. C H Philips, *The East India Company, 1784-1834*, pp. 52-53.

Macartney and on the matter of the private debts to order an exhaustive enquiry to establish their legality

The Board first considered the Directors proposals on 23 September and after Call had personally put the creditors case they decided to acknowledge all the Nawabs debts as just and to appropriate funds for their payment. The Directors on reconsideration were willing to acknowledge some without enquiry but not all of the debts. However Dundas had his way and the despatch was sent off to Fort St George unaltered. This decision was unjust. Not one of the debts had been justly incurred, indeed some of the claims were fabricated and the evil the despatch supposedly attacked was actually encouraged for the Nawabs private debts continued to grow. This controversy between the Board and the Court soon became public and Burke moved for papers in the House of Commons incidentally accusing the Minister of having made a decision favourable to the creditors in order to repay the Arcot interest for its support in the general election of 1784. Dundas replied to Burke's charges without really answering them and the papers were refused but by a subterfuge on the part of one Director the papers concerned were in fact made public. Whatever were the rights and wrongs of this matter the episode had gravely embarrassed the Ministry and Dundas in particular. It was not surprising therefore that when in the autumn of 1785 and the spring of the following year it became evident² that the Nawab really could not at one and the same time repay both the Company and his private creditors and that the 1784 policy must be modified Dundas determined to remove the matter altogether from the hands of the Court of Directors and to deal with it through the Secret Committee which consisted of the three senior Directors. Simultaneously he quickly pushed through Parliament a bill compelling the members of this Committee to swear an oath of secrecy. In this Dundas was within his rights but his action was tantamount to a public declaration of hostility to the Company. It was interpreted in this way by a majority of Directors and Proprietors who met and declared that the construction of the Act of 1784 by the Board of Control is subversive of the authority of the Court of Directors and tends to establish a secret system of government highly dangerous to the interests of the public and the Company.

Senior appointments to India With the India House and the Board of Control in conflict on policy it was clear that more than usual emphasis would fall on the selection of senior appointments to the Company's government. Pitt's India Act had vested the nomination of the governor generalship of Bengal and the governorships of Madras and Bombay in the Court of Directors subject to Crown's approval. Sullivan led off by proposing that Warren Hastings who had called for the

2. Secret Letters from Court, 21 July 1786 (No. 23, para. 5 and No. 24, enclosure IX).

appointment of a successor, should be allowed to continue in office for at least one year after any such new appointment. He also got the Directors to nominate a Madras servant, John Hollond, as provisional successor to Macartney in Madras. Dundas was against both proposals. He wanted Macartney, the Governor of Madras, to succeed as Governor General and his own friend Archibald Campbell, to go to Madras. Pitt preferred Cornwallis as Governor General but, on his refusing the offer, fell back on Macartney. The Directors divided evenly on this, and when a ballot was taken the drawing of a lot favoured Macartney who was duly nominated³. Sullivan continued to press the claims of Hollond to Madras, but Dundas, by threatening to use the Crown's power of recall, vetoed Hollond and got Campbell appointed, thus creating the precedent for the use by the Ministry of the power of recall which ultimately put the superior appointments in India into their hands.

The Company's finances : But the fundamental problem was the Company's solvency. In the midst of altercation all groups unhesitatingly accepted the prime need for reducing the Company's expenditure. The Directors worked out the principles of an extensive economy which was to save half a million pounds a year in the Company's establishments. Wisely leaving the details of such a matter to them, Dundas gave general support and the orders were rigorously enforced. He himself was hard at work on a plan which at one and the same time would restore the Company's credit and strike a financial blow at its European trading rivals. The war which had ended in 1783 left the Company in a financial morass. Macpherson, the retiring Governor General, began to look for a way through it by reducing current expenditure, but he could not look ahead far enough to devise a plan to reduce the Company's Bengal debt which Sullivan in 1785 estimated at about £8m. Dundas's view was that financial reform constituted an essential basis for the restoration of its political position under the terms of Pitt's India Act. The only quick way to do this was to undertake the admittedly risky transfer of the Company's India debt to London which, he thought, would have the added advantage of providing the Company's servants and others, with a safer channel of remittance than was offered by foreign companies. In short, in struggling to its feet the Company in India was also to deal its foreign rivals a shrewd blow or two. The danger of course was that the London end of the Company might not be able to stand the financial drain, but Dundas was prepared to risk this. At the worst if the India House was overwhelmed the state would have to step in, and Dundas could regard with equanimity the possible extinction of the Company's London government.

The more experienced Directors, including Sullivan, were at one with Dundas in emphasising the seriousness of the Company's situation, but they were apprehensive of the likely danger to the India House of a large

³, Secret Letter from Court, 12 April 1785 (No. 19)

transfer of debt and they rightly indicated that the only long term safeguard would be a big increase in the exports from the Company's territories to London. Five of the Directors were positive that this could not be done and that the plan therefore should not be embarked on but the majority were agreed that the risk had to be taken. Accordingly Dundas drafted a despatch providing for the funding of £4½m of the Company's Indian debts at five per cent and their transfer to London by the substitution of bills on the India House at a fixed rate of exchange. The Directors conveyed various warnings to their governments and added proposals for a modest increase of the Company's exports to London, rising from an annual average of 130 to an average of 150 lakhs of current rupees (i.e. from c. £ 90 000 to c. £ 112 000). In fact, the transfer began briskly and within a year totalled £1½m but after that it slowed down finally petering out in 1787 but not before it had thrown a grave financial burden on the India House.

System of government In the meantime the urge to reorganise all branches of the Company had brought under scrutiny the general system of considering and despatching business especially in the India House itself. Dundas thought this problem was 'the very corner-stone of the whole Indian administration' but he was not alone in this. Sullivan too was keenly aware of the need to speed things up and also of the importance of the Directors themselves undertaking an overhaul of their own organisation. Applying his unrivalled experience of Leadenhall he produced in the spring of 1785 a most remarkable memorandum proposing an extensive reform of the Company's system of government.

In transacting business the Directors had long been in the habit of dividing into twelve committees (not counting the Secret Committee) on each of which nine of them served in addition to the Chairmen who were of all Committees. To these the Directors were appointed not by merit or qualifications but by seniority. The nine senior Directors thus served on a majority of committees including the most important Committees of Correspondence and of Treasury and to these senior Directors and the two chairs fell the major share of the Company's valuable patronage. Sullivan asserted that the division into committees originated in the division of patronage rather than of business and that the system was out of date, cumbrous and inefficient. The rules and ordinances of the Company at home he said are exactly upon the same scale as they stood in 1707 when the Company thought only of trade, at present neither the Auditor nor the Accountant can give any explanation of the millions spent in the late war except a conjectural estimate. He therefore proposed reducing the committees to three, a political committee to manage civil and revenue matters, a second committee for military matters and a third for commerce. On these the Directors were to serve according to their qualifications and corresponding committees were to be set up at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. The existing secret committee system would presumably have been retained for important political matters.

The plan was excellent, both simple and adequate, but it broke on the rock of patronage, for Sullivan proposed also that seniority should no longer carry with it the major share of patronage. In the light of his own long service no one could accuse him of selfish motives, but the Chairmen and senior Directors were not prepared to take the same view, and after prolonged discussion, the plan was watered down into a slight rearrangement of existing committees leaving the patronage system untouched. Nevertheless, they had no objection to the trial of Sullivan's plan in India and, with Dundas's approval, the presidency governments were divided into Boards as Sullivan had suggested. Sullivan's plan evoked a crop of abortive proposals to change the committee system but they were significant in only one respect, that one and all took it for granted that the Secret Committee would remain. Merely by reading through the documents in this volume we can see how important this Committee had become.

The Secret Committee It was in fact the inner government of the Company. It is therefore necessary to say something about it here, the more so because its origin and history have been either ignored or inaccurately treated by historians. First, the Secret Committee must not be confused with the Secret Court of Directors, which as its name implies was nothing more than the whole Court meeting in private. Secondly, Pitt's India Act which refers to the Committee did not bring the Committee into existence as part of the India House system. Several of the contributors to the later volumes of the *Cambridge History of India* fell into this error. Indeed, the Committee's origin has been variously explained and attributed. Peter Auber, the Company's great Secretary and constitutional historian of the early nineteenth century gives the year of origin as 1748, but in this he was merely following John Bruce, the Company's first historiographer, H D Love, the annalist and a more recent authority thought it began in 1706. However, a scrutiny of the minutes of the Court and of the Secret Court of Directors reveals that the Committee of Secrecy was first appointed on 23 April 1683, that it functioned intermittently down to 1741, and that from then onward it appeared in the list of the Court's standing sub-committees.

From the first it was entrusted with the most far-reaching political powers as well as with the obligation of issuing secret sailing instructions to shipping. In time of war it became the Company's war cabinet. When talks were afoot with the ministers of the day, especially when treaties were under negotiation with foreign powers, the Secret Committee was usually entrusted by the direction with plenary powers. By 1782 it had become customary to nominate the two chairmen and the senior Director to be the Committee, and it was in this form that the Pitt's India Act gave the Committee statutory life. Under the Act it was to form the channel of communication between the London government and the Indian governments on matters concerned with the making of war or peace or negotiations with the Indian states. Before 1784 it had been

far more than a channel of communication and down to its extinction in 1858 it never for long ceased to exert influence on East Indian policy. At times indeed it was wholly responsible for policy. Dundas found that the Secret Committee could be either a great nuisance or a great help. The supplementary act of 1786 in which he got Parliament to impose an oath of secrecy on the Committee's members revealed that he could not lightly afford to override it. Later during the war against revolutionary France as we can see most clearly in Dundas's correspondence with the then Chairman David Scott he came to value the Committee's advice.

External policy With a programme of domestic reform and reorganisation agreed on the London government turned to problems of external policy. From the treaty of Versailles in 1763 the possibility of renewed war with France not only in Europe but also in the East was ever present in the ministers' minds. Once the domestic crises of 1783-84 had been overcome Dundas and the Secret Committee gave particular attention to this. The treaty had apparently restored the *status quo* among the European companies in India, but in fact the English Company provided it could set its finances in order was clearly in the stronger position. The French Company could exist economically and politically only with the consent of the English Company. Dundas's plan for the transfer of debt was conceived in part as yet another move to undermine the economy of the foreign companies particularly the French. Indeed other European companies the Dutch the Danish and the Philippine were quite correctly regarded as offering no positive threat to the British position but it was feared that their weakness might be taken advantage of by the French. The British ambassador in Paris Eden reported for example that there was talk of the French taking possession of Dutch ports in the East and it is as a precautionary response to this policy that we interpret the Secret Committee's orders for the seizure of Diego Garcia⁴ and the occupation of Nancowry harbour in the Nicobar Islands⁵. Whilst taking these steps Dundas at the same time encouraged the approaches which a group of French businessmen were making to the India House. The basis proposed for these trade negotiations was that the English Company should annually supply the new French Company in India with an investment in return for ten per cent of the profits. Sullivan and Warren Hastings were against such dealings with the French but in the upshot the French Government animated by Vergennes, the Foreign Minister was bent on a quite divergent policy the main intent of which was to seek pre-eminence in India through military and maritime power. Acknowledging to himself the inferior situation of the French in India Vergennes refused to countenance these trade negotiations and instead despatched naval missions to test the route to India through the Red Sea and to visit all important ports east of the Cape of Good Hope. No less than ten French naval expeditions

4. Secret Letter from Court, 21 July 1786, enclosure III. (No. 24)

5. Secret Letter from Court, 12 April 1785 (No. 18)

were sent into the eastern seas within the five years 1784-89.

As the news of these plans reached London and some appreciation of the aims of French policy began to grow, the attitude of Dundas and the Directors stiffened. The inclinations of Macpherson's government in Calcutta to take a moderate trade policy towards the French were sharply curbed, and the trade convention which a mission under Colonel Cathcart had signed in Mauritius, was immediately disowned by the Secret Committee⁶, and the terms themselves were later whittled down to nothing by Eden in Paris.

In all its thinking on the future of British power in India, the London government of the Company between 1784 and 1786 started from its fear of French designs. By comparison threats from the Indian country powers were taken lightly. The power of Tipu Sultan or of the Marathas or of the Nizam were thought to be immediately significant only if supported by the French. In the very remarkable despatch of 21 July 1786 outlining the principles of its foreign policy the Secret Committee began by enforcing a pacific system consistent with the famous declaration in Pitt's India Act and then went on: "The next leading Principle is to keep a constant watch upon the conduct of all European Rivals, particularly the French. . . that if any of them (Indian princes) shall accept of European Aid we shall feel ourselves warranted to throw the aid of our force into the opposite scale."

This was reinforced two months later with the clear declaration that the Company's main purpose in foreign policy was "to resist the introduction of any European Force into the Contests of the Indian Princes", and such help as the Macpherson government had promised to Sindia against Tipu Sultan was immediately countermanded⁷.

The general pattern of policy as conceived in London thus becomes clear from these documents. The war was over and above all the Company needed peace. Given this it was to reform its system, retrench its expenditure, and so distribute its financial commitments as to create confidence in India and an attractive channel of investment to its own servants and foreigners. The Company was seen to be one of the great powers of India. "Considering therefore our Territories in India as one great Empire, every part of which is to be estimated by the relative importance which it bears to the whole"⁸ no objection was made to the retention or acquisition by negotiation of strategically important areas like the Circars or Cuttack. It was thought that no Indian power unaided could destroy this empire and that the Indian powers were unlikely to combine. France in India as in Europe was seen as the great threat and at all costs her military strength was to be kept out of India.

Conceived so far from the scene of action this was a remarkably accurate appraisal of the position and likely trend of events in India. For

6 Secret Letter from Court, 22 September 1786, paras 10-15

7 *Ibid*, para. 2

8 Secret Letter from Court, 22 September 1785, para. 11

the Company and the British it meant that the achievement of Warren Hastings was not to be thrown away. The British empire in India was to become the British empire of India. The later policies of Marquis Wellesley and the Marquis of Hastings in India thus appear to fall into a pattern that was sketched in London between 1784 and 1786.

LETTERS TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS

A note on departments The business of the Secret and Public Departments though maintained in separate proceedings from 18 January 1775⁹, was performed by a single Secretary till September 1783, when the resignation of Secretary James Peter Auriol on the grounds of health and increased pressure of work led to the complete bifurcation of business under two independent establishments with a Secretary in charge of each¹⁰. The Secret Department at Calcutta included all subjects of a political nature all the correspondence with the Presidents and Select Committees at the other Presidencies also with the Councils there on political affairs, all the correspondence with the Residents at foreign courts and at Benares, all transactions with foreign nations and powers and every military operation or movement of troops which is either ordered or undertaken¹¹.

Proceedings relating to foreign nations in India first began to be recorded in a separate series on 6 July 1781 with the opening of hostilities against the Dutch settlements in Bengal. This separate series was discontinued on 6 October 1783 but was soon resumed by a resolution of 6 December 1783 when Government ordered the consultations on foreign nations to be recorded in a separate branch to be known as the Foreign Department. It was actually established on 10 December 1783 and placed under the charge of Secretary to Government in the Secret Department¹².

This separate arrangement continued to operate till May 1786 when a new system of administration by boards was introduced in the central secretariat in accordance with the orders of the Court of Directors in their letter to Bengal of 21 September 1785. The duties of the Secret Department were classified under four¹³ distinct heads: Political, Foreign, Military and Military Department of Inspection and Reform¹⁴. Other boards set up under the new arrangement were for military affairs, hospitals, revenue and trade.

Some of the letters included in the Secret series were issued in the Secret Department of Inspection. The principal object of this Department was to examine the civil and military establishments of government

9 I O Home Misc., 357 ff. 83-84.

10 Bengal Public Consultation, 23 September 1783 I. O. Range 2, v. 63 ff. 435-40.

11 *Ibid.*, f. 441.

12 Foster *A Guide to the India Office Records 1600-1868* pp. 43-44.

13 *Ibid.* pp. 48-49.

14 Secret Letter to Court 28 August 1786, para. 3 (No. 77).

and to suggest measures to reduce expense¹⁵

There had been from 1772 a public department of inspection to audit accounts. In July 1784, this was transferred to the Secret Department, and given the task of advising on retrenchment throughout the whole administration.

Letters dealing with retrenchment were thus issued in the Secret Department of Inspection, though they comprehend subjects both civil and military. In May 1786, it was reorganised as the Secret Department of Inspection and Reform.

These letters to the Court of Directors cover three main subjects, (1) relations with foreign settlements, (2) relations with the country powers and (3) retrenchment and reform at the end of the war.

RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA

Anglo-French Relations

The Anglo-French war which had broken out in 1778 extended over a period of five years and also involved Holland and Spain. However, with the close in 1783 of the main conflict with France peace was also established with the other belligerents. The definitive treaty of Versailles was concluded with France in September 1783, and the preliminaries which were settled with Holland in 1783 were subsequently accepted in the form of a treaty in 1784. The need for the East India Company to re-examine its political and trade relations with the settlements of foreign nations in India arose directly from the terms of these treaties in Europe.

As the French had led the war against Britain and still constituted the only powerful European threat to British interests in India, the settlement of affairs with them was bound to engage the major attention of government at Fort William in Bengal. Most of the information contained in the letters of the Foreign Department thus relates to the French settlements in Bengal and in other parts of the country. The Dutch and then the Danes come next in order of importance. As for the Portuguese, they had long ceased to be an object of rivalry, and such little information as we get from these despatches relates to the British residency at Goa.

Treaty of Versailles : The definitive treaty with France which had been transmitted to Bengal under the Court's letter of 24 September, 1783, was ordered on arrival to be published with due solemnity.

With respect to India, the treaty of Versailles had laid down two main principles for the restoration of peace. They were firstly, a reciprocal restitution of territories, and secondly, a safe, free and independent trade to be carried on by the French in India on the pre-war level. The first principle was put into operation without much trouble or controversy. Whatever delay occurred on this account arose not from any motive of insincerity but chiefly from the necessity of observing the usual formalities

before restitution could take effect. In implementing the second, however, it was a long time before a mutually acceptable agreement could be hammered out and once such an agreement was reached troubles developed on its interpretation.

On the receipt of the treaty in Bengal Marquis de Bussy the French Governor at Pondicherry was informed of the readiness of the English Governor to restore all the French settlements¹⁶. The Government of Fort St George was at the same time instructed to complete all the details of negotiations necessary for the mutual cession of territories.

Territorial restitution delayed for Trincomali. The restitution by the French of Trincomali to the Dutch Governor of Colombo however constituted under the terms of the treaty a condition precedent to any restoration being made to the French on the Coromandel coast. Bussy was therefore called on to transfer Trincomali but as he denied the possession of any instruction on the subject from his own government the matter remained in suspense for some time.

In November 1784 the question of Trincomali was raised again by the Dutch Governor and Council at Colombo in a letter to Fort William on which the latter formally proposed to Bussy (i) the delivery of Trincomali and its dependencies to the representatives of the Dutch Government of Colombo (ii) the restitution of the fort, town and district of Cuddalore to the representatives appointed by Fort St George, and (iii) the simultaneous restoration of Pondicherry to the French¹⁷.

Restitutions made on the Coromandel and Malabar coasts. However, Bussy's death on 7 January held up matters but his successor Coutenceau took action and accordingly on the transfer of Trincomali to the Dutch Pondicherry was duly delivered over to the French and Cuddalore restored to the English on 1 February 1785¹⁸. The cession of Villianur and Bahur as also of Karikal and a few adjoining villages was subsequently made to the French¹⁹. The completion of reciprocal arrangements on the Coromandel coast was soon followed by an order restoring Mahe to the French on the Malabar coast.

Restitutions in Bengal Bihar and Orissa. The return of French settlements in Bengal Bihar and Orissa was similarly made without any annoyance to either of the parties. On a representation for the restoration of Chandernagore and other French possessions in these provinces, a commissary was appointed on behalf of the English Government to negotiate with the French agent. A difference of opinion arose on the cession of Gaurhati which was claimed by the French as a dependency of Chandernagore. But after some clarification the place was transferred to the French.

16. Secret Letter to Court, 5 July 1784 para. 2.

17. Foreign Letter to Court 8 December 1784 para. 11.

18. Foreign Letter to Court, 22 February 1785, para. 9.

19. Foreign Letter to Court, 31 March 1785, para. 1.

Decisions had already been reached on the French possession of factories and houses of commerce in the different parts of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. These were again noted and declared as acceptable to both parties. Besides, the French also agreed that "no future Increase or Exchange of such Establishment shall be made without the Sanction of Government". This provision virtually reduced the French Company to the status of a purely commercial body. In return for this big concession to the English, all the inhabitants, whether European or native living within the bounds of French factories, were declared amenable to French jurisdiction. In certain cases the chiefs of the French factories were also permitted to recover their dues and balances from such weavers and manufacturers as lived beyond the limits of their jurisdiction. They were however required to deliver up any native inhabitant who sought refuge from justice in their factories.

In cases where French subjects "were accused of outrages against Natives of the Country", they were to be made over by the officers of government to the nearest French chief who was required "to examine the accusation and proceed according to the Exigency of the Case". But where French subjects had "Cause of Complaints against Natives", they "were to be tried in the Courts of Justice" established by the Company's Government, provided the cause of complaint arose beyond the bounds of the French factory.

The *dastaks* or permits of the French factory at Masulipatam were allowed a free currency in the Northern Circars with a "free passage exempt from all Duties, whether on Exports or Imports, for Goods belonging to the French Company or to French individuals".

The last article of the convention related to the payment of reparations to the French for the loss of their corvette *Esperance*. As the English had already offered to meet the damage, the question was settled without dispute. The English also agreed to additional stipulations for the loss of a life caused accidentally in the course of firing.

The provisions of the Anglo-French convention thus recognised beyond doubt the superiority of British political power and diplomacy in India. The French colonies at Mauritius, Pondicherry and Chandernagore were all unanimous in their opinion against the convention, as "ruinous to their Interests and exclusively favorable to those of the British Nation in India"³¹. The English in fact emerged as the sole arbiter competent to decide finally not only all vital issues of trade but also the fundamental question of the development of French settlements in India.

Stiffening of attitude under Cornwallis With Lord Cornwallis at the head of the English administration in India the French settlements were subjected to a further tightening of control. A controversy soon arose on the French claim to hoist their flag within the limits of their settlements. The controversy was in the beginning confined to Malda and

31. *Ibid.*, para. 159,

even though as *Diwan*, a political system of their own which could effectively support their unavowed claim to sovereignty. Thus to concede an independent trade as of right to the French carried implications which could not be disregarded without impairing the Company's political superiority which itself was necessary for the protection of their commercial interests. In their letter of 14 January 1785 therefore the Governor General in Council pointedly suggested to their principals two main considerations to be taken into account in the formation of trade policy. They were first the preservation of those rights which were intimately connected with the sovereignty of these provinces and secondly the general freedom of trade consistent only with the prosperity of the Country.²³

Besides the removal of restrictions on the movement of French goods was regarded as highly prejudicial to the permanent interest of the English Company. It is an obvious policy in the French observed a letter of 9 January 1786 but a policy no less convenient to them than it must be eventually ruinous to your interests, to send Agents if they be permitted into all parts of this country to undermine the authority of Government over the Zemindars and other natives and create a Disposition in them to shake off their subjection whenever the plans of France should be sufficiently matured to give operation to its Intrigues.²⁴ The apprehension of Government seems to have been confirmed by the complaints received from the Acting Magistrate of Dacca who reported certain cases in which the French had been found to have exercised judicial authority beyond the limits of their jurisdiction.

Trouble over salt monopoly Much of the difficulty of trade relations proceeded immediately from the anxiety of the English Government to maintain their monopoly of the salt trade. The Company had in fact enjoyed this monopoly ever since 1772. It had formed an important branch of revenue particularly since 1780, when the management of salt manufacture was brought directly under the immediate control of Government. A recognition of the French claim to trade in salt thus naturally involved a loss of income to the Company but nevertheless when in October 1785 Dangereux the French agent at Chandernagore expressed his desire for a restricted trade in salt it was accepted as a part of the policy of peaceful relations.

Under this agreement the French were allowed annually to import coast salt from Pondicherry to the extent of two lakhs of maunds. But the salt so imported was required to be delivered at the Company's salt office in Calcutta at a price not exceeding *sikka* rupees 120 per 100 maunds. This importation was to commence not earlier than May 1788. Besides it was to be brought on vessels commanded by Europeans and not on coasting vessels which were manned usually by natives.²⁵

²³ Foreign Letter to Court, para. 27.

²⁴ Foreign Letter to Court, para. 43.

²⁵ Foreign Letter to Court, 25 October 1785 para. 22.

The restrictive conditions of the salt agreement were however rejected by the French Governor at Pondicherry who reprimanded Dangereux of exceeding the bounds of his authority. In these circumstances, the French agent at Chandernagore repeated his demand for the recognition of the original French claims to a free trade which included the unrestricted entry of French ships to the Ganges, and the unrestricted import and export of goods including saltpetre and salt ²⁶

In such a situation every attempt on the part of the French to assert their right to free trade was opposed when necessary by force. On one occasion in December 1785, a British attempt to search and inspect a French vessel passing up the Hooghly near Budge Budge resulted in the exchange of shots which caused the loss of a life as also of the vessel suspected of carrying contraband salt from Pondicherry ²⁷

The conduct of the officer commanding at Budge Budge was supported by government at Fort William who justified the use of force by the remark that failure to use it would imply the surrender of the very sword which protected their monopoly.²⁸ "Had we given up the Revenue arising from salt", they added, "by laying the trade open to France, they would then deny you a revenue from customs. They might then claim a share in your landed revenue, and upon the plan of trading freely through the Provinces and erecting their Flag where they pleased they would have found a direct road to the vitals of Government and to excite tumults in these Provinces which would have endangered the Possession of them".²⁹

Declared policy of conciliation The loss of the French vessel thus created a situation which, if not timely handled, might otherwise have led to complications. Satisfied though the English Government felt at the effective opposition to the movement of the French vessel, their declared policy was to avoid giving any overt cause on their own part, which might hold them directly responsible for the breach of the treaty engagements, and they therefore adopted a conciliatory attitude, expressed regret for what had happened and offered willingly to meet the loss caused to the French.

This mild tone, however, did not yield the expected reward. The incident was referred to the consideration of the French Government at home, and the local authorities in India could not of their own accord form a judgment on a subject which affected the very fundamentals of the trading rights conceded to them by the terms of the treaty. The powers of the Governor General in Council at Fort William were equally limited for a final decision on that subject. On their side also the matter had been referred to the East India House.

26 Foreign Letter to Court, 9 January 1786, para. 38

27 *Ibid* , para 28

28 *Ibid.*, para 51

29. *Ibid.*, para 52

town of Trincomali in Ceylon also fell into the hands of the English, though it was subsequently lost to the French.

Territorial cessions delayed According to the terms of the treaty, the transfer of Trincomali to the Dutch Government of Colombo was a condition precedent to restitutions elsewhere. We have seen above that the restoration to the Dutch was delayed by the French.

Restitutions in Bengal and Bihar In the meantime the Dutch factories at Chinsura, Cossimbazar, Patna and Baranagar⁴⁰ (near Calcutta) were restored to the Chief and Council at Chinsura on condition that they did not hoist their flag and import any army or military stores⁴¹. The immediate necessity for such conditions arose from the fact that Trincomali was still held by the French and that no formal restitution of these settlements was expected to be made before Trincomali was ceded. This policy was appreciated by the Dutch Chief and Council at Chinsura who allowed full weight to the reasons that operated with us against a more perfect compliance for the present with the applications received from Batavia⁴² and when Trincomali was finally handed over in April 1785 their Council at Colombo expressed themselves as completely satisfied with the English execution of their engagements with Holland.⁴³ On the larger points at issue especially the political superiority of the English there was evidently full understanding.

Trade relations Trade relations with the Dutch continued on the whole to be peaceful. Besides the restoration of their flag the Chief and Council at Chinsura desired a clarification of their trading rights. Their flag was restored but a reservation of withdrawal if the occasion should arise was attached which inevitably evoked protest. They appear to claim remarked a letter of 14 January 1785 rather as a right what was before solicited merely as a favor, and instead of candidly accepting what we had done, they indirectly reproach us for not having done more⁴⁴.

Neither this incident nor the detention of a Dutch vessel the *Straalen* seriously affected their good relations. The Dutch were in the habit of landing their goods without producing any vouchers specifying their quantity quality or cost and the local officials at Hooghly held up the *Straalen* as a test case. However on the receipt of a complaint from the Dutch the Fort William Government ordered the Board of Customs not only to release the ship but also to allow a free passage to all such other boats as might be proceeding to Hooghly with goods to be loaded on the *Straalen*. This friendly attitude was calculated to improve that good understanding which had lately been revived by the treaty⁴⁵. The Governor General in Council was in high hopes that the Dutch would materially assist the English Company's far eastern trade.

40. Foreign Letter to Court, 8 December 1784 paras. 7-9

41. *Ibid* para. 9

42. Foreign Letter to Court, 31 July 1785 para. 29

43. Foreign Letter to Court, para. 4

44. *Ibid.*, para. 8

under certain restrictions acceptable to them. On 27 July, 1785, the town of Chandernagore was given up, the Company's court of justice was abolished and the entire establishment reduced. Only the office of commissary, which formed a link between the French authority and the English Government continued to function.

Though Bihar was not specifically included in the 13th article of the definitive treaty, the French were allowed to keep a chief at Patna. In Orissa, they were likewise permitted to have a factory at Balasore. Instead of their land at Jagdia, which had been washed away by the "overflowing" of the river, they were allowed to rent on lease an equal area of land situated in the vicinity of their original possessions. The French claim to "the Gunge of Norindy in the Town of Dacca" was recognised, and their previous possessions at Tisgong and Serampore considered "as dependant on the French Factory at Dacca". "Whatever Factories and Houses the French were possessed of at Conicola, Kerpay, Soopore and Mohunpore" were also "restored to them" ²⁰

Thus in matters of territorial readjustment the English Government showed "every attention to the Rights to the French, and every reasonable indulgence to their Claims". ²¹ Obviously, they were guided in their conduct by consideration of peace, and carefully avoided acting in a manner which might furnish grounds for a breach of the treaty.

Difficulties arising in trade relations. The determination of trade relations, however, presented a task of a much greater magnitude. "no Difficulties have yet occurred", remarked a letter of 25 October, 1785, "nor do we think that any can be apprehended in Regard to the Restitution of *Places*. The Usage of visiting French Ships as they pass to the Fort of Budge Budge; the Privileges of Trade, and the Mode of ascertaining and realizing the Duties of the Country Government on that Trade, have been the principal Points of Discussion between us, and the French Agent. These Points were for many Years before the late War, .. Matters of constant Dispute In some Respects they were also Causes of Difference with the other Foreign Settlements in Bengal" ²²

Political implications of right to free trade. The thirteenth article of the definitive treaty provided for a "safe, free and independent trade" to be carried on by the French, either collectively or individually as before the outbreak of the war. The admission of the French claim to free trade was bound to clash with the rights of sovereignty which the English Company had in fact acquired since the acquisition of the *Diwani* in 1765. Although legally standing on the same footing as the French in their relation to the Mughal emperor who was still avowed as the sovereign ruler of the country, the English had by this time built up,

20. Foreign Letter to Court, 24 March 1786, para 5

21. *Ibid.*, para 8

22. Foreign Letter to Court, paras 5-6

Chittagong but it soon developed into a general issue affecting one of the provisions of the Anglo-French convention. A clear statement of policy therefore soon became necessary for the guidance of the Company's servants

Flag controversy Under one of the articles of the provisional convention it had been provided that all the Inhabitants whether Europeans or Natives of the French Establishments Factories and Houses of Commerce as well as the Territory annexed to them shall be under the protection of the French Flag and subject to the French Jurisdiction ³² No construction of this provision could normally deprive the French of their right to hoist their flag within the limits of their territories or establishments. Lieutenant Young who as secretary had accompanied Col. Cathcart to the Isle of France and attended all the deliberations of the convention there held a similar view declaring 'that the French had an equal right to hoist their Flag in all parts of this Country where they may have a Public Establishment and Jurisdiction' ³³

Nonetheless the Governor General in Council put their own meaning on the article of the provisional convention. Guided as they were by political considerations their construction of the provision was influenced by what they described as the pernicious effects to the Company's Interests and Authority which might arise from any new power granted to the French Nation to hoist Flags without discrimination ³⁴ They therefore resolved 'that the Flag of his most Christian Majesty should be hoisted only at the five original Factories belonging to the French at Chandernagore Daoca Patna Cossimbuzar and Ballasore and at the Factory which they have been permitted to Establish in lieu of Jugdea' ³⁵

Consequently the English commissary at Chandernagore was directed 'to request the French Agent in the name of this Government, to issue orders to the Chiefs and Agents of his Nation to discontinue the use of hoisting the Flag of his most Christian Majesty except where they were permitted to be hoisted by these resolutions' ³⁶

These resolutions were generally not put into operation and the French agents continued to hoist their flag in the manner they did before. But they clearly indicated the determination of the English Government to suppress every semblance of political authority on the part of French settlements in India.

Extension of French settlements prohibited No extension of French settlements was now possible without the permission of the English Government. Under a clause of the provisional convention applications for such permission were not to be refused except on good grounds. But the sanction, if sought was bound to be rejected in view of the strained

32. Secret Letter to Court 11 November 1786 para. 32. (No 79)

33. *Ibid*

34. *Ibid* para. 33

35. *Ibid*.

36. *Ibid*, para. 34.

relations between the two nations. A case actually occurred in which the French agent applied for the purchase of a piece of land in the town of Chittagong. The Governor General in Council refused to grant permission on the grounds of inexpediency " .if a Right be admitted in the French", they observed, "or consent given to their holding or purchasing whatever Land they may be able to obtain either by Hire or otherwise from the Zemindars of the Country the Case may eventually happen that while it continues the object of Government as it ever must to confine the French to certain Limits they may at length acquire such a Command of Territory and such an Influence in the three Provinces as will tend to over-rule the Company's authority and reduce the Country to the power of France" ³⁷ This policy also led to the withdrawal of a few trade privileges earlier conceded as a mark of conciliation to the agents of the new French Company in the town of Calcutta ³⁸

In fact, the basic position established in Anglo-French relations in India during 1782-86 amounted to a victory for the English who came to occupy a foremost position. The Company's Government in Bengal therefore intended that those trade privileges which had been conceded to the French by the definitive treaty of Versailles should be regarded as proceeding from their own grant as a sovereign body. The French, on the other hand, claimed their freedom of trade as of right originating from the grants of the Mughal emperor from whom the English also avowed to have derived their authority. That is why they still harped on their "safe, free and independent trade" which they claimed to have enjoyed before the outbreak of the war. They did not fully appreciate the new alignment of forces caused by the great and evident change in the opinions and dispositions of the country powers who now looked upon the English as victors with views on politics and trade that had to be treated seriously. This failure to appreciate the position led the French for some time to continue their agitation for the recognition of their claim to the freedom of trade. But as their policy was far removed from reality, their agitation failed to do more than keep alive the suspicion and jealousy of the English who prepared to crush them completely when occasion should arise in future.

Anglo-Dutch Relations

Anglo-Dutch relations in India were governed by the definitive treaty concluded between the two countries in 1784. As with the French this treaty provided for the restitution of territories and the restoration of normal trading conditions.

In consequence of the war all the Dutch possessions in India had been captured by the Company's Government³⁹. The Dutch fort and

37. *Ibid*, para. 54.

38. *Ibid*, para. 19.

39. K K Datta, *The Dutch in Bengal and Bihar, 1740-1825 A D*, pp 110-35.

Plenipotentiary appointed to negotiate provisional settlement In their anxiety to restore normal trade however the Governor General in Council appointed Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart of the King's army as their minister plenipotentiary to negotiate in Mauritius a mutually acceptable settlement of the outstanding questions at issue between the two nations in India. The proposed agreement was designed to operate as provisional expedient subject to the final approval of the home governments. In the event of his not being received by the French authorities in Mauritius he was advised to proceed to London and explain the entire situation to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors. In the meantime the agents of the new French Company established to carry on East India trade were allowed on request as a gesture of friendship to have a house at Calcutta for the deposit of their merchandise as also to carry on trade on the payment of duties not exceeding 2½ per cent.

Anglo-French trade convention Col. Cathcart successfully concluded an Anglo-French trade convention in Mauritius. Accordingly the British engagement to guarantee to the subjects of France a safe free and independent trade was mutually accepted as extending in general to all the possessions of the English Company in India. This guarantee was not to apply to the territories of the British allies such as the Vazir of Oudh, the Nizam of Carnatic or the Raja of Tanjore.

The municipal duties in the Company's principal settlements were allowed to continue along with the usual general duties on trade in Bengal. The Company's monopolies of salt, saltpetre and opium were duly maintained as before, and salt, arms and military stores were declared as contraband. The French were however, permitted to import salt up to 200 000 maunds subject to the entire quantity being delivered over to the Company's officers at the price of rupees 120 for every 100 maunds of salt. This had already been agreed to between the Company's Government and the French agent at Chandernagore.

No manifests of cargoes were to be demanded in future on the arrival of merchant vessels from Europe. But the invoice of goods either imported or exported under the signature of one of the French agents and the seal of their Company had necessarily to specify the kinds qualities and quantities of such goods with their prime costs so that the Company's collectors of customs might easily determine the duties payable at the rate of 2½ per cent.

The custom of hailing or visiting French merchantmen passing up and down the river was doubtless given up, but this immunity was not extended to trading vessels carrying contraband goods on board. Fundamentally, the Company's Government retained their discretionary right to search or inspect all such trading vessels as were suspected of carrying contraband goods.

saw the Necessity which we were reduced to of acknowledging it, holding at the same time the Madras Presidency responsible for its Defects . . .”⁵⁴

Governor General's reactions The Governor General also did not know of the signing of the treaty of Mangalore. On 17 February, 1784, he had left for Lucknow to settle certain affairs of the Company with the Vazir of Oudh. From a letter received there from Anderson, Resident at the court of Sindia, he was acquainted with Sindia's suspicion about the intentions of the Company's Government respecting the provisions of Salbai. He therefore advised the Council at Fort William categorically to tell Macartney that no treaty concluded with Tipu without their permission and a definite reference to Salbai could ever expect to receive their ratification. He was therefore surprised and pained to learn in reply that the treaty was already a *fait accompli*.

Sindia conciliated Subsequent news of Sindia's displeasure at the disregard of the Maratha treaty made the Governor General apprehensive of the difficulties that might arise. He therefore sought to reconcile Sindia to the treaty of Mangalore by addressing a letter in appreciation of the merits of his services which, he said, had brought about the treaty in question. In his letter addressed to the Council at Fort William, he felt however, “sorry to add that the Arguments he was obliged to use were such only as displayed the Nakedness of our Political System, and the Imbecility of the first Authority by which it is governed”⁵⁵

The Governor General's conciliatory letter to Sindia produced a good effect, but Sindia also asked for a formal declaration to be made by the Council, enumerating his services in bringing an end to Tipu's war against the English. James Anderson objected that such a proceeding would be “contrary to the form of the English constitution, but Sindia had “this Point at Heart”⁵⁶ and the Governor General agreed to do it.

The Council, however, were of another mind. “such Declaration”, they observed, “might have the Effect of forcing us into a Renewal of the War with Tippoo Sultan, and that it might be followed by a Demand for the Reimbursement of the Expence which the Marattas incurred in their Reparations [*sic*] for War to give Execution to the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey. For these Reasons we declined authorising the solemn and specific Declaration proposed by the Governor General to be made to Sindia . . .”⁵⁷

Arcot ignored The Nawab of Arcot had also been ignored by Macartney who made no reference to his name in the body of the treaty. He felt slighted at the inclusion of the names of the Rajas of Tanjore and Venkatagiri who were inferior to him in status, and to assuage his feelings

54. *Ibid.*, para 21.

55. *Ibid.*, para. 40

56. Secret Letter to Court, 20 August 1784, para. 7.

57. *Ibid.*, para 23.

payment of 2½ per cent duty be allowed to be exported if necessary, to other places under Danish passports only. The customs regulations however required such goods to pass under *rawanas* or permits from the collectors of government customs. In spite of their protest the rules continued to operate. Thirdly they desired exemption from the usual demand for manifests of cargoes required to be produced under rules on the arrival of their trading vessels from Europe. Upon the production of such manifests the customs authorities levied a duty of 2½ per cent on both imports and exports. As the concession of their demand involved a loss of revenue, it was rejected likewise. Fourthly the Danes wanted permission to pass all their merchandise under the passport of their own chief at Serampore while the customs regulations required them to be exchanged for a *rawana* from customs authorities. This exchange operated as an effective check to the passage of contraband goods and could not ordinarily be dispensed with. Lastly they sought exemption from the payment of duty on grain and provisions imported for the consumption of their settlement at Serampore. Here too their claim was not accepted.⁴⁹

O Bie the Danish Governor at Serampore characterised these restrictions as unnatural unprecedented and unconstitutional. But the English were firm. In the case of the French some of the rigours of the customs regulations were reduced in consequence of the Anglo-French convention. But fundamentally their operation was not discontinued. The Danes subsequently demanded considerations on the basis of the French agreement⁵⁰ but no relaxation was finally admitted.

In the course of the Anglo-Mysore War (1780-83) the Portuguese authorities at Goa had maintained a strict neutrality. Attempts were made by Haider Ali to bring them into his war against the English but, with England at peace with Portugal Goa remained neutral even though neutrality brought a clear threat of invasion from Mysore.

On the termination of war with Tipu an English residency was established at Goa, no doubt because of its importance as a "center of information from Poona Seringapatam and the French Islands."⁵¹ Moreover in the disturbed state of contemporary politics, the English wished to keep a constant watch on French agents who often landed there before proceeding to the states of western India. Charles Crommelin, who had earlier acted as Governor of Bombay was appointed Resident at Goa in 1784. He was replaced in 1785 by General John Carnar who on account of his knowledge of Indian and European languages was deemed better qualified for that situation.

RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRY POWERS

The period 1778-82 The Anglo-French war which had begun in 1778 created in India a situation which rendered the position of the English

49. Foreign Letter to Court, 8 December 1784 para. 33-35.

50. Secret Letter to Court, 28 August 1786, para. 183. (No. 77)

51. Secret Letter to Court, 9 January 1786, para. 42.

extremely delicate and serious, particularly during 1781-82. These were years of strain which put the Company's Government in India to its severest test since 1765. The combined resources of the French and Haidar Ali, the strength of the Maratha army, the vacillating attitude of some of the Company's own allies, the non-co-operation, if not the hostility, of the *zamindars* in Bengal, and, above all, the want of a proper political system of control over the other presidencies, were factors which combined to threaten the English central power in India. It was in the main the genius and resourcefulness of Warren Hastings, the skill and subtlety of his diplomacy, the fortitude and strength of his character that not only saved the English from impending ruin, but enabled the government to emerge in 1784 with credit and apparent victory.

Of the country powers whose affairs occupy most of the space in the Secret Letters to the Court during 1782-86 the Marathas and Mysore stand out.

Salbai . The war with the Marathas ended with the treaty of Salbai which was signed on 17 May, 1782⁵². Apart from the mutual restitution of conquests made on either side since the treaty of Purandhar in 1776, the treaty of Salbai was marked by two features which determined the course of subsequent events. In the first place, it was concluded through the mediation of Mahadji Sindia who formed during this period the connecting link between the governments of Fort William and Poona. Secondly, by Article IX of the treaty, the Peshwa engaged that Haidar Ali 'shall be made to relinquish the territories belonging to the English and their allies' and that 'all the prisoners that have been taken on either side during the war shall be released'. The aim was to bring Maratha pressure to bear upon Mysore and force an end to its war against the English. This article not only formed a subject of controversy and recrimination between the Supreme Government and the other presidencies, but also created suspicion in Sindia's mind which, if not removed, was bound to affect his confidence in the English.

Mysore Relations

Peace negotiations The treaty of Salbai of course influenced the trend of negotiations for peace with Mysore. These negotiations had in fact already begun locally in February 1782, but as the French were still in the field against the English, hostilities continued unabated. In the meantime Haidar Ali died in December 1782, and was succeeded by his son, Tipu Sultan who resumed peace talks in February 1783. But as a separate peace treaty with Mysore involved a breach of Salbai, which required the intercession of the Marathas, the Governor General declined in the beginning to conclude it. In view of the deteriorating state of finances and difficulties in maintaining a regular flow of supplies to the

52 Aitchison, *Treaties, Engagements And Sanads*, 1892 (ed.), vol vi, pp. 41-45,

In the first place a studied and scrupulous regard was paid to the preservation of Sindia's dignity and pre-eminence in order to retain his friendship and co-operation. Secondly, a Resident was appointed to the court of Poona to win the favour of Nana Phadnavis without impairing the sense of Sindia's vanity of being the sole mediator on Maratha affairs.

Sindia We have already seen how much care was taken by Warren Hastings to reconcile Sindia to the treaty of Mangalore. In their decision to appoint Sir Charles Malet to the residency of Poona a similar consideration was given to the Disgust which it might give to Mahajee Sindia, who had been taught to consider himself as the sole Agent in every negotiation between this Government and the Poona Durbar.⁶² Sindia's acquiescence was therefore regarded as a necessary condition to the confirmation of Malet's appointment. 'This Acquiescence' it was however observed indeed did not appear to be given with that Cheerfulness which we could have wished, but the political Situation of the Principal Native powers in Hindostan and the Residence of an agent on the part of the Government of Pondicherry at the Poona Durbar rendered it advisable that we should have a Minister there.⁶³

Hence though Malet's appointment was confirmed and completed on 7 December 1785 Government could not be sure whether he would at all be invited by the Peshwa. The reason was that Sindia's willing approval was still wanting and his jealousy still apprehended. Therefore in order to remove every Ground of Jealousy on this Account on the part of Mahajee Sindia the Governor General in Council resolved that Malet's Correspondence with this Government shall pass thro the Channel of Mr Anderson, Resident at the court of Sindia.⁶⁴ Moreover Malet was advised that in all his Conferences with the Poona Ministers and on all other proper Occasion he was to declare and adopt one leading Rule for his Conduct Vixt. that as Mahajee Sindia is the sincere and approved friend of the English Nation and as he is the Guarrantee of that peace which has produced Tranquillity to the Affairs of the Company and Marratta Government he must always be considered as the Guarrantee of our Connection with the Marrattas.⁶⁵

A copy of the relevant part of instructions to Malet was transmitted to Anderson for Sindia's consideration. This move which was designed to please Sindia, and through him the government of the Peshwa was duly attended with success. In a subsequent communication Anderson reported that Sindia had expressed himself extremely well pleased with these Instructions. Sindia informed the Resident that 'Nana had in a Letter lately received, intimated his wish that Mr Malet might proceed as soon as possible to Poona.'⁶⁶

62. Secret Letter to Court 9 January 1786, para. 19

63. *Ibid.*, para. 20.

64. *Ibid.*

65. *Ibid.*

66. Secret Letter to Court 23 February 1786, para. 29 (No. 69)

With the acute shortage of specie in Bengal, the English wanted the Dutch to help in making up the investment to China, particularly by depositing bullion at Canton in payment for saltpetre supplied to the Dutch at Patna.⁴⁵ Also to further the sale of opium a negotiation with the Dutch for the establishment of an emporium at Negapatam or its exchange with Malacca was also considered.⁴⁶ The supply of rice from Batavia to meet the requirements of the Madras Presidency was yet another consideration which weighed in the pursuit of a policy of friendship with the Dutch settlements in India. Underlying this was the fact that the English and Dutch Companies' servants saw advantages in the joint development of their private trade.⁴⁷

A policy of peace and friendship was likewise compatible with the interest of the servants of the Dutch Company. "The Sources of Profit to all the servants of the Dutch East India Company", observed a letter of 31 March, 1785, "which depend chiefly if not totally upon their Commerce in the East Indies, having been stopped and indeed entirely done away, during the late War, their personal Interests are so much Involved in the Continuance of the present peace that they dread the possibility, however distant, of a renewal of War between the two Nations and are of course disinclined to any sure connections with France as might render the Established Tranquility precarious."⁴⁸

The identity of interest subsisting between the English and the Dutch thus contributed for the most part to the growth of understanding and good relations. The truth was that the Dutch recognised the political position of the English and the latter did not fear Dutch power in India and were therefore willing to allow Dutch trade to arise side by side with the French.

Relations with the Danes and the Portuguese

The Portuguese in India had long since abandoned ideas of an expanding political power and the Danes had never seriously or for long had such pretensions.

The relations of the English with the Danes at Serampore in Bengal were guided exclusively by considerations of trade. The main Danish complaints proceeded from the customs regulations of 1781 which restricted the normal flow of their commerce.

Danish claims and British reactions. The Danes were prepared to pay a duty of 2½ per cent. on all country goods or manufactures imported into Fredericksnagore (Serampore). No trouble arose on this ground, as it conformed to the existing usage of the country. Secondly, the Danes wanted that the goods once imported into Serampore on the

45 Foreign Letter to Court, 31 July 1785, paras. 38-42.

46 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, 29 April 1785.

47 Furber, H, *John Company at Work*, p. 87.

48 Foreign Letter to Court, last para.

the Governor General proposed a declaratory clause to be appended to the main treaty. But this also could not be done.

Macartney censured In these circumstances, the conduct of the Madras Government, especially of Lord Macartney, was censured by the Supreme Government of Bengal. The range of censure included not only his disregard of Salbai but a number of other failings which had caused displeasure to the Governor General in Council especially his failure to follow up the conquests of Fullarton and his weakness towards Tipu.

Macartney's Mysore policy widened the differences between Fort William and Fort St George and finally led to his resignation in 1785. The attention paid by Bengal government to the complaints of the Nawab of Arcot so wounded Macartney's feelings that he finally resigned and went home in 1785.

Mysore affluations uncertain The treaty of Mangalore brought about the cessation of hostilities but could not remove the suspicion under which it had been concluded. Though apparently at peace the relations of the English with Tipu continued to be uneasy. "Engaged as he was in a war with the allied forces of the Nizam and the Marathas Tipu could not afford to incur the hostility of the English. Nonetheless, he was suspected of having set up a number of petty rajas on the Malabar coast against a dependency of Tellicherry a settlement of the English. It was a place of strategic importance and formed a vital link between Madras and Bombay through the Carnatic. In time of war it might well be converted into a base of military operations lying close to Tipu's dominions."

Tellicherry reinforced The Bombay Government was therefore asked to equip the settlement with men, money and military stores against any exigency that might arise in future. "Accordingly the garrison at Tellicherry was brought up to a Battalion of Sepoys, 2 Companies of European Infantry about 40 Artillery and 1500 Militia." "Care was, however taken to see that the terms of the treaty with Tipu were duly observed this being one of the reasons which prevented the English Government from assisting the Marathas in their offensive war against Mysore."

A glo-Maratha Relations

The treaty of Salbai marked the end of an Anglo-Maratha conflict which had spread over a period of some ten years from the death of Madhav Rao Peshwa in 1772.

In making this treaty and that of Mangalore in 1784 with Tipu the Governor General and Council were guided principally by their concern to preserve the Company's very existence in India. The Company had stood

58 Secret Letter to Court, 30 June 1786 para. 5.

59 Secret Letter to Court, 24 March 1786, paras 10-15.

60. Secret Letter to Court, 30 June 1786, para. 4.

n a precarious position for which the Bombay Government was primarily responsible in so far as they had declared war against the Marathas without the concurrence of their superior government. But once the gains of the Marathas at Wadgaon in 1779 invoked the question of British prestige, there was no going back. The war had to be fought in spite of the serious complications arising from a combination of the French and Mysore forces in July 1780.

Pitt's India Act. The war established beyond doubt the imbecility of the political system founded upon the Regulating Act of 1773. It betrayed utterly the lack of a properly unified control over the policy of war and peace. This was one of the most important lessons of the war and it undoubtedly helped to shape the character of Pitt's India Act, 1784. In one of the clauses of this act control was centralised in matters of war and peace, and a principle enunciated deploring all ideas of territorial extension. It directed in practice the pursuit of a policy of peace and non-interference with the internal affairs of the country powers.

Instability of contemporary politics. Contemporary Indian politics, however, had not yet settled down. South and Central India were unsettled by the conflicting interests of the Marathas, Mysore and the Nizam, and Anglo-French rivalries served to worsen their relations and render the political balance still more unstable. To maintain a policy of neutrality under such conditions was a task indeed beset with risk and uncertainty.

General policy. The difficulties of the declared policy of neutrality were precisely expressed in a letter of 9 January, 1786, in which the Governor General in Council justified their modifications of the principle laid down by the India Act of 1784. "It has been our constant System", they said, "in all our Transactions with the Country Powers to raise the jealousy of none of them by our negotiation, or by views Hostile to their particular Interests to obtain perfect Intelligence of their Designs, and to let them severally and unitedly feel that, tho' we wish not to be parties in their own internal Disputes we are determined to maintain preponderating Influence in whatever scale we may think it just to throw the force of our aid. Peace is our object, but if the Peshwa, Tippu Sultan or Nizam Ally Cawn should enter into Engagements with France Hostile to our Interests we must then take a decided Line in order to counteract such Engagements, and to maintain the Security of these Provinces at every Hazard, for there is certainly a point beyond which a pacific System, however desirable, cannot be pursued to the attainment of any permanent Security."⁶¹

Maratha policy. The French interest at the court of Poona was represented by Montigny with whom Nana Phadnavis was apparently on intimate terms. Naturally enough, the object of the English Government was to counteract the French influence with the Peshwa and replace it by their own. To achieve this object two main lines of policy were pursued.

base of military operations however a separate treaty with Tipu became a matter of necessity particularly when Maratha aid did not materialise in the form originally promised

Commissioners But before a decision was formally taken in favour of a separate treaty Lord Macartney the Madras Governor had already appointed on 31 October 1783 two commissioners to proceed to Mangalore to secure the release of prisoners and conclude a peace treaty with Tipu.

Political and military situation favourable to the English It may be recalled, however that Tipu Macartney peace overtures had been preceded by a situation more favourable to the English than to Mysore. Early in February 1783 the fort of Mangalore had been occupied by the English although Tipu lost no time in besieging it and investing the town of Mangalore to cut off all supplies. The news of the cessation of hostilities between France and England however deprived the Sultan of the entire support of the French who in July 1783 withdrew from the conflict. Tipu and Macartney therefore agreed to an armistice which was signed in August

Slow progress Accompanied by Tipu's representatives the English commissioners left for Mangalore in November 1783. But the progress of their march was very slow. In fact, the commissioners actually complained that Tipu's vakils often led them out of the great Road through inconvenient and difficult Passes for reasons not known to them

Suspicion and uncertainty Despite several untimely incidents negotiations continued. In the meantime co-operation was sought by the English so that in the event of failure they might not find themselves alone in the field but this was not without risk and complications. It was beyond the capacity of the Bombay Government to supply an adequate number of troops to fight in combination with those of the Marathas. In their letters of 23 February and 6 March 1784 they in fact informed Fort William of the Peshwa's actual 'requiring them to join the Maratta Army against Tipu'. But they had declined it and simply desired to depute a Gentleman to Poonah to press the Peshwa to exert himself against Tippoo

Treaty of Mangalore However on the basis of the mutual restitution of conquests and exchange of prisoners the treaty of Mangalore was finally concluded on 11 March 1784. But in making the treaty of Mangalore the Madras Government made no reference to the Peshwa or Sindia whose concurrence had been thought essential for any arrangement with Tipu. Nor had the previous sanction of the Supreme Government of Bengal been obtained before it was concluded. The final document was transmitted to Fort William simply for ratification and signature, and this perforce had to be done by government. notwithstanding our Disapproval of the Treaty' they observed "we

The Secret Letters of the period are replete with other instances in which the Company's Government in Bengal studiously avoided giving umbrage to Sindia. A number of cases occurred in which powerful deserters from his camp wished to take refuge in the territories of the Vazir of Oudh. But the Governor General in Council used their influence with the Vazir to refuse them shelter.⁶⁷ Differences arose between Sindia and the British Resident himself on the question of Jaipur which the former wished to annex to his dominions. These were so pronounced that Anderson left his camp and withdrew himself to Agra. But the conduct of government disclosed no change of attitude whatsoever. Anderson's withdrawal produced a sobering effect on Sindia, while the position of government remained unaltered.⁶⁸

Identity of interests Sindia, on the other hand, was fully conscious of the benefits which proceeded from his friendship with the English. He consolidated his position in the north and gained complete control over the person of Shah Alam, the Mughal Emperor. He obtained from him the title of *Vakil-i-Mutlaq* or his sole representative. But he knew that a title from the Emperor carried no meaning unless backed up by the English, his powerful allies. He therefore interposed his influence to close down the Maratha war against the English. He supported them against the French at the Poona Durbar and took care to prevent any junction of Franco-Maratha interests. He secured the release of an English vessel detained by a Maratha chief at Gheria.⁶⁹ His intercession was sought against the design of the Poona Government who wanted to capture the territory of the Sidi of Janjira in which the English were interested for its strategic position along the western coast.⁷⁰ Apparently neither the English nor Sindia could safely dispense with each other.

Object of Poona Residency In the unsettled state of political affairs in the country a complete knowledge of what transpired at the court of Poona was regarded as essential for the security of the Company's interest. Malet's appointment to Poona was therefore designed "to ascertain and defeat any Views which might appear in the French or other European Powers unfriendly to the Interest of Great Britain..."⁷¹ In the execution of his trust Malet was advised "to discover the Views and dispositions of the different members of the Poona ministry." The scope of his commission extended also to the collection of information regarding the chiefs subordinate to the Maratha Government, the extent of their resources and the degree of their loyalty to the central authority.⁷²

67 Secret Letters to Court, 9 January 1786, paras 43-47, 30 June 1786, para 11

68 Secret Letter to Court, 30 June 1786, paras 11-16

69 Secret Letter to Court, 24 March 1786, para 5

70 Secret Letters to Court, 8 December 1784, paras 18-22, 28 August 1786, paras 61-63 No 77

71 Secret Letter to Court, 9 January 1786, para 21

72. *Ibid.*

In December 1785 Nana formed with the Nizam a coalition against Tipu for the recovery of the Maratha territories lying south of the Krishna river. For the successful prosecution of the war that followed the Marathas needed additional aid and support. Montigny the French agent at Poona was said to have offered 'the Assistance of his Nation but threatened in the event of refusal to join Tipu. In these circumstances Sindia desired that the Marathas should be permitted to employ the French Troops in their Service against Tippoo'.⁷³ Anderson, however, believed that this request had been Dictated solely by the despair of Assistance' from the English side. He therefore suggested that the extension of an assurance of assistance might well stop the connections so apprehended to be made between the French and the Marathas.

Consequently Poona was assured that it was the Determination of the English Notion not only to Support their Connection with the Peshwa but to improve it in every way that could be satisfactory to him and his Chiefs.⁷⁴ For the execution of this assurance it was declared that Malet had been deputed to the Peshwa for the purpose of settling more particular Arrangements, so that orders might forthwith be given to send whatever Troops were needed for assistance. A condition was however, annexed to the assistance to be so extended. In view of the Peace subsisting between the English and Tippoo Sultan it was pointed out that those Troops could not be employed to make war in his Country.⁷⁵

Malet's appointment On 3 March, 1786, Malet arrived at Poona where he was warmly welcomed. On 7 March he presented his credentials to the Peshwa who expressed great satisfaction at his arrival.⁷⁶

As Nana Phadnavis had left the capital at the head of his army to invade Tipu's dominions Malet followed him to the Maratha camp. On 30 April he received on his way a letter from Nana Phadnavis asking the Bombay Government for the immediate despatch of five battalions to join the Marathas and another five to support the Nizam's army. Nana's expectations he noticed differed both in extent and principle from his own instructions received from the Governor General in Council on that subject. The latter had promised only three battalions in all and that also exclusively for the security of the Peshwa's Person or of any of the Forts within his Dominion with express orders prohibiting their employment in any offensive war against Tipu.⁷⁷

Nana Malet meeting Malet's belief was that this want of conformity had perhaps been due to a misconstruction of the letter addressed to the Peshwa by his own government. But when he met Nana in his camp on 19 May 1786 he found himself surprisingly cornered by his queries.

73 Secret Letter to Court 28 February 1786 para 31 (No 69)

74 *Ibid* para 38.

75 *Ibid*

76 Secret Letter to Court 30 June 1786 para. 6.

77 *Ibid* paras. 6-7

Nana's first point was that the march of the allied army was purely defensive in character and was solely aimed at recovering from Tipu the territories of Kittur and Nargund which had once belonged to the Marathas themselves. He therefore wanted to know whether what the Marathas were recovering as their own would be looked on by the English as Tipu's territory.⁷⁸ The second important point made by Nana Phadnavis concerned what he regarded as a British breach of agreement. Richard Johnson, while Resident at Hyderabad, had consented "to send a Body of Troops" to join the Marathas against Tipu. But when the Peshwa wrote "about that Body of Troops through the Nazim," he got no reply. "Though that application was made through that quarter", Nana complained "yet their Treaty and Friendship through Sindia was what they [the British] placed their whole trust in." Malet's reply to these queries was for the most part inconclusive.⁷⁹

Malet's reactions In the course of this meeting Malet perceived a tendency on the part of Nana to doubt the sincerity of the British promise to assist the Marathas. "Nana in particular," he observed, "mentioned the Treaty of Tellagaum as a Proof that our Professions were not always to be relied on."⁸⁰ Malet was personally convinced of the uselessness of offering military aid which the Marathas could not employ against their enemies. Their object "in wishing the Aid of an European ally", Malet admitted, "must be the reduction of the Enemy's strong Holds, which object could only be varied by the ascendancy of Tippoo, and his Invasion of their Country, and in that Predicament only did he imagine our offer of assistance in its present Form would be acceptable."⁸¹

Inner policy explained But a definite military engagement formed no part of the policy of the Company's Government. In fact, they did not mean even to carry out their assurance of restrictive assistance. The necessity of such an assurance, as we have seen, had arisen from the apprehension of the French being invited to join the Marathas against Tipu. To avert this was the immediate object of British policy, and the method was to hold out a promise to aid the Marathas "in a certain Case" which, as Macpherson's government believed, was "most unlikely to happen." They imagined that "the mere Rumours" of their interference "might operate to the Credit and Advantage of the Maratta State" without injuring their relations with Tipu. The Governor General in Council in fact wanted to gain time and by holding the Marathas under hope of assistance sought to keep the French in isolation.⁸²

Cornwallis opposed to assistance policy Lord Cornwallis on his arrival in September 1786 opposed Macpherson's policy of restricted

78 Secret Letter to Court, 28 August 1786, para 75 (No 77)

79 *Ibid.*

80 *Ibid.*

81 *Ibid.*, para 68

82 *Ibid.*, paras 76-77.

assistance He wished to be quite straightforward in his dealings and to adhere to the principle laid down by the India Act of 1784 his Lordship's attention is specially drawn said a letter of 11 November 1788 'to the promise made to the Mahratta State of an aid of Troops from Bombay His Lordship was firmly persuaded that the measure proceeded from the warmest anxiety for the Public Good but his opinions () are decidedly against a continuance of it He therefore proposed the letter added, 'that we should avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded by the change of Government to draw a distinct line for our future Conduct and that a Letter should be written to the Peshwa which should notify to him our resolutions to suspend all negotiation for granting an Aid of Troops which could not be carried into execution consistently with the rules prescribed for his Lordship's Conduct."

A letter was accordingly addressed to the Peshwa But as it was apprehended that the French might take advantage of the annoyance likely to be caused by an open declaration of neutrality, Malet was authorised to use discretion, if necessary in delaying the delivery of that letter"⁸³ But this discretion was to be exercised in a manner consistent with the determined policy of government to pursue strictly the line of neutrality Cornwallis made it clear that he did not want to continue a policy which might either cause suspicion about the integrity of British intention or embroil the Company in a war with the country powers.

In relation to Sindia, Cornwallis adopted a similar policy of frankness which was designed to restrain his ambition to occupy the territories of chiefs and *jagirdars* friendly to the Company's Government. Anderson was accordingly authorised to order the march of a British detachment from the Vazir's dominion in order to stop the movement of Sindia's troops then operating near the Doab Much as we must lament, wrote Government 'the necessity of being obliged to take any step tending to cool the Friendship or even to lessen the appearance of Harmony between this Government and Mahajee Sindia every other consideration was to be sacrificed to that of the Honor of this Government and the Protection and safety of its Allies."

Other Country Powers

Hyderabad Of the other country powers the Nizam of Hyderabad occupied a leading position His relations with the Company continued to be friendly the main subject of discussion being the *peshkash* or tribute payable to him on account of the Northern Circars.

Under the treaty of 1763 as revised in 1768 the Northern Circars had been transferred to the Company on payment of an annual tribute

83. Secret Letter to Court para. 11 (No. 80)

84. *Ibid.*, para. 17

85. *Ibid.* para. 31

of nine lakhs of rupees Of the five Circars so ceded by treaty, however, only four came into the actual possession of the Company's Government The Circar of Guntur remained under Basalat Jang, the brother of Nizam Ali Khan, during his lifetime

On the outbreak of war with France in 1778 the Government of Madras took possession of Guntur and transferred it on lease to the Nawab of Arcot. The superior Government of Bengal regarded this conduct and measure as both unjust and impolitic Besides breaking the treaty, this act of the Madras Governor offended the feelings of the Nizam at an hour when his sympathy and friendship was most needed. Hence, they ordered the immediate restoration of Guntur to Basalat Jang Their orders, however, remained unexecuted till the opening of the second Mysore war in 1780 It was then restored without grace under the force of adverse circumstances

On the death of Basalat Jang in October 1782, the Circar of Guntur passed directly into the hands of the Nizam With the establishment of peace in 1784 arose the question of liquidating the arrears of tribute for the Northern Circars held by the Company. Richard Johnson, who was appointed Resident at Hyderabad, was asked to settle the arrears with the Nizam by securing an adjustment of the revenues of the Guntur Circar Johnson's political task consisted in a careful handling of the conflicting interests of the southern states without giving an assurance of aid to any of them His failure in the proper execution of his trust, however, led to his removal from Hyderabad which was placed under Malet's charge on his appointment to Poona.

The adjustment of accounts with the Nizam thus remained suspended till it was reopened by Cornwallis on his arrival in September 1786 He then recommended that the arrears of tribute should be set off against the revenue proceeds of Guntur which of right had devolved on the Company after the death of Basalat Jang This mutual adjustment of accounts cancelled all the old arrears and demands of the Nizam ⁸⁶

The settlement of accounts was followed by a consideration of the desirability or otherwise of obtaining from the Nizam the possession of Guntur Although politically expedient, the proposition was not thought to be economically sound, because the conquest of Adoni by Tipu had rendered the approach to Guntur vulnerable Any measure of defence, besides involving additional expense, had the risk of being viewed with jealousy which might lead to hostility The idea of laying claim to it was therefore given up for some time

Oudh Asafud-Daulah, the Vazir of Oudh, was a friend and supporter of the Company's interest Apart from the affair of the Begums of Oudh his relations with English Government related chiefly to the payment of subsidies for the maintenance of British troops and the adjustment of certain accounts left incomplete by Resident Bristow who was recalled at the instance of the Governor General.

On 17 February 1784 Warren Hastings left for Lucknow where he stayed well over seven months in settling the Company's affairs with the Vazir. The Governor General showed consideration for his views and recommended to the Council certain deductions to be made in his subsidies for troops. But as an additional detachment was kept employed in his behalf to prevent the incursions of the Sikhs on the north western frontiers of his territories, no deductions could in effect be made. A few regulations were however established to remove corruption in the supply of stores and provisions to British troops stationed in the Vazir's dominion. On Cornwallis's arrival the Vazir expressed a wish to visit Calcutta. The Governor General extended his approval and ordered suitable preparations to be made to accord him a reception befitting his dignity and honour.

Delhi. The policy of the Company's Government towards Shah Alam the Emperor of Delhi was considerably influenced by Sindia who had complete control over his person. During Hastings's stay at Lucknow a proposal was made by Major Browne Resident at Delhi to conclude treaty relations with the Emperor. But the Governor General rejected the suggestion mainly on two grounds. In the first place, it was full of uncertainty in view of the shifty character of the palace politics and secondly it had the risk of being viewed with suspicion by Sindia.

Prince Jawan Bakht was however received with honour and given shelter at Lucknow on his flight from his father's palace at Delhi. The prince's person too had a value and it was considered wise to extend him protection lest he should throw himself into the hands of the Company's enemies who might use him to their own advantage. When Cornwallis came as Governor General Jawan Bakht expressed his desire to visit Calcutta but he was not allowed to proceed beyond Benares.

It is clear that in all these negotiations and relations with the country powers the English Company is aware of the new position it is taking up on the Indian political stage. The policy enunciated from London is observed. Peace is important, the avoiding of commitments is important, the winning of time is important. But to see what use was being made of the time that had been won we must turn to the internal policy of the Company.

RETRENCHMENT AND REFORM

Necessity for retrenchment. Military operations in India had caused a considerable increase of expense and an enlargement of staff and with the termination of the war it was inevitable that an attempt should be made to reduce them to a peace footing.

Financial distress. The serious crisis of 1781-82 had led to the depletion of the Company's treasuries at Bombay, Fort St. George and even at Fort William. The amount of Military Disbursements observed a letter of 25 March 1785 greatly exceeded the net revenues under the presidency of Fort William. From the year 1781 to this period,

the letter added, "it must appear at first sight extraordinary how Resources could be provided equal to the Amount of your Expenditures when the actual Military Expence of each of your Presidencies within that period, independently of every other Expence, amounted to perhaps double the Nett produce of all your Revenues in India"

Earlier, in the same letter of 25 March, 1785, it was pointed out that "the Amount of unsatisfied Demands upon the Treasury of Bengal, and for which Treasury or Exchequer Orders have been already issued, was on the 1st of last month [February 1785] 139 Lacks of Rupees, exclusive of your Bonded Debt, and without including all the arrears to your Army".⁸⁷

This position not only drew attention to the need for an overhaul of the administration, but also, in fact, contributed to the termination of the war itself.⁸⁸ One of the principal considerations which guided the members of the Madras Government and later the Supreme Government in their decision to negotiate peace was the threat of bankruptcy.

Once peace was concluded with Tipu Sultan in March 1784, the task of retrenchment soon engaged the full attention of government. As early as 5 July 1784, they held out an assurance of economy to the Court of Directors, but it was not until January 1785, however, that retrenchment was first begun in earnest

The increased bulk of the administrative establishment had been a consequence not only of war but also of the want of a properly co-ordinated policy. Appointments and promotions, for example, had been granted on no fixed principles. This problem therefore necessitated a thorough investigation into the nature and history of the various departments which had sprung up mainly since the year 1776.⁸⁹

Difficulty of retrenchment The difficulty and delicacy of the task facing government is clearly discernible in the introductory remarks of their letter of 31 January 1785. "To wave [*sic*] the motives of personal Regard and private Friendship", they said, "is the greatest Tax upon the Sensibility of the Mind but the Task imposed on us by your Injunctions and your Interests have compelled us to suppress these Considerations, and to unite in the prosecution of a Plan of Retrenchment and Reform by which the Sacred Pledge of your Credit was to be redeemed".⁹⁰

Objects in view The objects which declaredly claimed the attention of government were two "the Interest of the Public and the Situation of Individuals. The former was to be consulted by reducing the Expences of every Department, without Favor or Partiality within

87 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, para 100

88 Anderson, A. *An Historical and Chronological Deduction of the Origin of Commerce*, vol. iv, p. 467

89 In the course of his India Bill Pitt proposed, among other things, a complete revision of all the establishments in India, and desired to see, "what, on account of their inutility, inconvenience, corruption or abuse, ought to be extinguished." *The Parliamentary History of England*, vol. xiv, p. 327

90 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, para 5

the Strictest Limits of Economy and the latter suggested the necessity of providing for the Interests of those who might suffer by our Arrangements ⁹¹

Principles of retrenchment The Governor General in Council therefore laid down guiding principles ⁹² The retrenchment was to affect all departments dismissed officers were to be compensated, salaries were to be adjusted according to scale and no further recruitment was to take place before 1787

Civil The departments to be scrutinised were classified broadly as civil and military The civil establishment comprised departments (Public and Secret) immediately appertaining to the Supreme Council, including the Committee of Accounts and the Accountant General the Civil Paymaster and the Compiler of Standing Orders. The possibility of economy here was limited.

Revenue The Committee of Revenue and the collectors subordinate to it formed a considerable establishment It was assisted by the *Khalsa* with the *Rai Rayan* and the Chief *Diwan* at its head It had its own accountant general and a preparer of reports who co-ordinated the functions of the committee with the Governor General in Council in their Revenue Department which had first been established in 1772 when the Company took over the direct administration of revenue in the provinces of Bengal Bihar and Orissa. As revenue constituted the primary function of the grant of *Diwans* In 1765 most of the civil branches of administration such as justice and police belonged to it Within this department also were included the management of salt customs and opium *pulbani* or embankment and *mushakra* or the allowance payable to *zamindars* removed from their estates.

Commerce The Department of Commerce was also substantial in size It was managed by the Board of Trade set up in 1774 Though by nature distinct from the civil functions of government a line of demarcation yet remained to be drawn to distinguish the commercial from the purely civil service

Economy in the Military Department had to be approached with caution Moreover the Court of Directors had their own plans for a peace-time military establishment which had to be taken into account

Committee of Revenue On account of its great bulk the Revenue Department absorbed the first attention of Government The Committee of Revenue consisted of four covenanted servants who were entrusted with the charge and management of all public revenues. The salaries of the Committee arose from commission on collections They drew one per cent upon the net Collections in general and an additional sum upon that part of the Collections made *Huzzoory*, or under their own immediate Control ⁹³ Under this arrangement the commission of the

91 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, 31 January 1785, para. 6.

92 *Ibid.* para. 7

93 *Ibid.*, para. 10.

President of the Committee amounted in 1784 to *sikka* rupees 90,504, and that of each of the members of the Committee to *sikka* rupees 75,420.⁹⁴ The commission was reduced so that the President and each member should draw a sum not exceeding rupees 60,000 per annum respectively.⁹⁵ The Committee itself was charged with the responsibility of reducing its subordinate establishments

Collectorships Not much thought seems to have been given by the Governor General to reducing the collectorships, but they were cut down. Two of the five districts in Bihar were abolished, and four of the Bengal districts were reduced on account of their nearness to Calcutta. Another district was annexed to Murshidabad

Courts of justice Three of the courts of *adalat*, too, were ordered to be abolished—two in Bengal and one in Bihar. In Bengal, the jurisdiction of the court at Rajhat was divided between Murshidabad and Burdwan, and that at Sultan Ushun (Sultanse) was annexed partly by the collectorship of Sylhet and partly by the court of justice at Dacca. In Bihar, the court at Mehsi was transferred to the jurisdiction of the judge of *adalat* at Darbhanga. Certain reductions were made in the salaries of the examiner and reporter of appeals to the *Sadr Diwan Adalat*. The Supreme Court of Judicature, however, was not affected by any of such measures of retrenchment, because its establishment was regulated by the act of Parliament and could not be altered without its previous sanction. Only a few changes were made in the salaries and fees of the Company's law officers who served in that court.

Salt and grain The commission enjoyed by the salt agency was reduced from 10 to 5 per cent, and the Board of Customs and the Committee which regulated the sale and price of grain were abolished, their function being taken over by the Committee of Revenue

Total retrenchment in revenue establishment The Court of Directors advised in their letter of 11 April, 1785, that the entire revenue establishment should be kept within a limit of 72 lakhs of rupees. This included the charges of collection, allowances to *zamindars*, the expenses of the courts of justice and stipends to the Nawab and his ministers. On 28 February 1786, the Governor General in Council replied that the sum yet remaining to be reduced amounted to rupees 6,94,198 above the prescribed limit of 72 lakhs.⁹⁶ In spite of the assurance earlier held out by the Committee of Revenue and the Accountant General to the Revenue Department, the ideal could not be reached and the sum so outstanding remained unreduced.⁹⁷ But nonetheless, a considerable reduction had been made in the expenses of this Department which before the introduction of the measure amounted to over 95 lakhs.

Civil establishment Macpherson's government contemplated the

94 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, 25 March 1785, para 19.

95 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, 31 January 1785, para 10

96 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, para 10

97. Secret Letter to Court, 28 August 1786, para. 392

retrenchment of the civil establishment by a union of the Secret and Public Departments under a single Secretary. But the plan remained abortive. Some reduction however was made by the abolition of the office of the Compiler of Standing Orders and the Committee of Accounts. Only the President of the Committee continued to function with the object of bringing the arrears up to date. In the execution of his duties he was to be aided by Secretary in the Department of Inspection who was allowed to retain his assistants.⁹⁸

Table of allowances Because many of the allowances formerly enjoyed by the Company's servants had been abolished in this overhaul of the administration the Governor General in Council agreed to what they termed a decent Subsistence for the different ranks of the service. The table of allowances drawn out for the purpose was as follows

		per month
A Senior Merchant	sikka rupees	1200
A Junior Merchant		800
A Factor		500

Besides civil servants were given the option 'to return to England with an Allowance of half their allotted Salaries payable in Bengal and without forfeiture of their respective Ranks.'⁹⁹

Subsequent experience however showed that the above retirement rates exceeded in certain cases even the established Salaries for Offices of Labour and offered inducements to civil servants to resign with the view of retiring on the Allowance.¹⁰⁰ These rates were therefore considerably reduced to

	per month
For a Senior Merchant not married	800
Do married	1000
For a Junior Merchant not married	600
Do married	800
For a Factor not married and quarters	300
Do married and quarters	500

Payment in certificates The acute shortage of specie and the huge arrears of pay which provoked a mutiny in the Madras army compelled government to introduce the system of paying salaries and allowances partly in cash and partly by certificates. The military was given priority on the cash balance of the general treasury and payment by certificates to the civil servants of the Company became in fact a matter of course.

Supreme Court declined to accept certificates Even the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature were asked to accept the new mode of payment by certificates. But as the credit of the Company had been seriously damaged by the huge debts incurred in the prosecution of the

98 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court 31 July 1785 para. 45

99 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court 25 March 1785 para. 52.

100 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court 31 July 1785 para. 49,

late war, certificates could only be exchanged at heavy discount. Naturally enough, the judges observed that the proposal of government "amounted in substance to a request that they should choose [one] of two Evils, either, by discounting their Paper to receive considerably less, than the Legislature [had] given them, or to borrow Money for the supply of their monthly Expences, the first of which they thought unreasonable, and the second [unbecoming?] their stations"¹⁰¹ The judges, however, expressed their willingness to make a temporary concession and agreed to accept "monthly payment of half their Salaries," provided government ordered a "speedy payment of half their Arrears so that their Current expences might, with rigid Oeconomy, be supplied." ¹⁰²

In some cases of military arrears in which the Supreme Council had undertaken to pay in the course of eight months after date, what the Madras Government had allowed to certain commercial concerns was "the extravagant Rate of 30 P cent", of discount ¹⁰³ On the receipt of this news from Madras the rules governing the grant of certificates were modified. It was resolved that "all the servants of the Company and the other Dependents of this Government receiving monthly not more than 1,000 Rupees" should be paid in cash. Those receiving monthly beyond that sum were however to be paid half in cash and half in certificates. This regulation doubtlessly produced relief to the low-paid servants of the Company, but the evil could not be fully remedied.

Sepoy regiments and army staff On the military side also the reductions were considerable. The number of the sepoy regiments was reduced from 35 to 30. The general staff of the army was to be reduced to the peace level of 1776. But no member of the staff or troops who had been in foreign service in the course of the late war was to be affected by the proposed measures of retrenchment. The independent regiments of light infantry stationed at Ramgarh and Chittagong were also left untouched for the defence of frontiers.

Sibandi corps The *sibandi* corps whose main duty was to support the civil authorities in the collection of revenue within the provinces were disbanded¹⁰⁴ and replaced by four brigade regiments formed and stationed in different parts of Bengal.

Board of Ordnance In January 1785, the Commander-in-Chief was asked to prepare a plan for reducing the expenses of the Board of Ordnance which controlled all military expenditure, but in May 1786, on the orders of the Court of Directors, this Board was replaced by a Military Board of seven members with the Commander-in-Chief as its president. To it were transferred virtually all the duties of controlling expenditure formerly performed by the Board of Ordnance ¹⁰⁵

101 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, 28 February 1786, para 20

102 *Ibid*, para. 21

103 Secret Letter to Court, 28 August 1786, para 409 (No 77)

104 Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, 25 March 1785, para 71

105 Secret Letter to Court, 28 August 1786, paras 189-90 (No 77)

Hospital Board A Hospital Board was also formed with the Physician General as its president to manage the affairs of military hospitals and keep due control over medical stores and expenditure, including the medicine shop at Calcutta.

Reductions in civil and military establishments In a letter of 1 November 1785 the total reduction made in the civil and military expenses of government was stated as amounting to rupees 45 30 129-5. A further saving of rupees 90 35 564 was reported in the Military Department. The total annual expense of civil establishments, however, remained at current rupees 25 95 000 which exceeded the prescribed limit of 20 lakhs by current rupees 5 95 000¹⁰⁶. Similarly, the expenses of the Revenue Department exceeded by rupees 6 94 198 the prescribed limit of 72 lakhs.

Current arrears and bonded debts Closely connected with the problem of retrenchment was the gigantic task of liquidating the arrears of pay and the bonded debts of the Company in India. The bonded debts and arrears of civil and military pay at Fort St George amounted on 1 July 1784 to star pagodas 39 24 033. In Bombay they were estimated at rupees 2 57 24 517 on 8 November 1784. The civil and military arrears of pay at the different presidencies in India exclusive of bonded debts amounted to current rupees 3 10 01 621 on 1 February 1785. These calculations were made on the basis of 100 star pagodas as equivalent to 400 current rupees.

Liquidation of arrears The payment of military arrears was the most serious and urgent problem. Although the mutiny at Madras had been suppressed the apprehension of a general Disaffection to the Company's Service still persisted¹⁰⁷. Some measures therefore had to be taken to give financial relief immediately to the army there. An arrangement was made for the remission from Bengal of rupees 8 50 000. Orders for the payment of other demands on the Bengal treasury were suspended and permission was granted to the Madras Government to use even force, if necessary, for the realisation of *peshkash* or tribute from the Nawab of Arcot and the Raja of Tanjore¹⁰⁸.

As part of his plan to liquidate military arrears the Governor General proposed the Provision of a separate Investment at the Different Presidencies in India not exceeding eight Lacks of Rupees to be denominated the military Arrear Debt Investment. The object was to build up a fund for paying off such Bills as might be granted to those Holders of Bonds on Account of Military Arrears who might prefer receiving an interest of five Per Cent in England to the interest of Eight Per Cent in India¹⁰⁹. This scheme was specifically designed to pay the arrears of the king's troops.

106. Secret Letter to Court, 23 August 1786 para. 427 (No. 77).

107. Secret Letter to Court 9 January 1786 para. 4.

108. *Ibid.*, paras. 6, 8 and 13.

109. Secret Letter to Court 23 February 1786 para. 3.

Liquidation of bonded debts The general financial position of the Company's Government was most unsatisfactory. The revenue resources were found to be inadequate for the liquidation of the Company's bonded debts, and in March 1785, a deficiency in the income and expenditure account of current rupees 1,49,01,433-11-11 was reported ¹¹⁰. According to Macpherson's calculation the payment of the current arrears of pay was expected to consume for three years the entire surplus proceeding from territorial revenues. He therefore proposed a separate plan for the liquidation of the Company's bonded debts in India. The primary object of the plan was to secure the payment of interest which was estimated as amounting annually to no less than forty lakhs of rupees. "If this sum were employed in a well-selected investment", observed Macpherson, "in addition to that ordered by the Company, and the interest of the bonded debt was made payable in England at 5 per cent, I am confident that with proper care and selection of the goods the amount of sales in England would discharge not only the 5 per cent interest, but gradually liquidate the principal of the debt itself" ¹¹¹. While explaining the benefit of his proposed plan in his minute of 9 April, 1785, he added that "an addition of certain proportions of the principal to enlarge the investments, and provide for the sales in Europe according to the demand of the market would in a few years secure the discharge of the whole bonded debt, the arrear debt would at the same time be extinguished by the application of the surplus territorial revenue to its liquidation. The Company's paper in India instead of being depreciated at its present rate would rise immediately upon the adoption of such a plan nearly to par, and stop that fatal evil which sinks the Company in debt at Bombay accumulating every day in proportion as a discount of 70 per cent renders their bond ineffectual to relieve their absolute wants" ¹¹².

The idea of paying interest in England on loans contracted in India had arisen from the fact that most of the bonded and current debts in India were incurred either by the Company's servants or British subjects connected with their commerce, or by Indians living under the Company's protection. In fact, the idea of a bonded debt investment was borrowed from what was known as the subscription investment of 1781/82, when government had drawn bills upon the Company at home to purchase an investment of that description ¹¹³.

As we have seen, the home authorities of the Company were equally concerned to reduce the Indian debt, and Macpherson's proposal was met by a plan laid down in London which sought to transfer a considerable part of the debt to London. This was duly achieved but in the process the London government itself suffered grave financial embarrassment, and was in turn weakened in its relations with the State.

From the above account the severity of the Company's financial plight

110. Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, 25 March 1785, para 113

111. I O Home Misc., 370, ff 146-47

112. Secret Department of Inspection Letter to Court, 29 April 1785, paras 15-17.

becomes clear. The home and Calcutta governments were equally convinced of the need for extreme measures of economy. Naturally enough the London authorities displayed the broader grasp of the problem and appeared to be looking further ahead and moving with greater confidence. It was not until the arrival of Cornwallis in September 1788 fresh from consultations with Dundas and the Secret Committee that a similar vigour, certainty and confidence were imparted to the Bengal Government's policy.

LETTERS FROM COURT

LETTER DATED 4 JANUARY 1782

Suspected French design to intercept British ships and attack the island of St Helena

OUR Governor Genl & Council at Fort William

In addition to what we have written by this conveyance we inform you that Monsr Le Motte Piquette is soon to [sail] with the Couronne, St Michel & two other [Ships] of the Line for the Islands, with a frigate [of] Sloop & Transports, with three or four thousand Soldiers, That when in the Latitude of St Helena he is to dispatch the St. Michel [with] the Troops to the Islands & himself to [wait] to intercept our Ships & afterwards to [follow] to Mauritius, but it is conjectured before the Troops are sent away he will make an attack upon the Island of St Helena.

London,
4th January 1782
(Received overland, 8 July 1782)

We are,
Your affecte Friends,
(Signed) L Sullivan/Wm. James.

LETTER DATED 29 JANUARY 1782

Instructions for the safety and protection of British ships—movements of certain French ships and design of M de Bussy.

TO the Governor General of Fort William in Bengal for the time being.

1 As the Hostilities wherein this Nation is engaged with France, Spain and the Dutch still continue to be pursued with unabated Vigor, and without [any] present prospect of a Cessation, we the Secret Committee of the East India Company order and direct you to conform to the following Instructions for the safety and Protection of such of the Company's Shipping as may fall under [your] management either while in India or

for their return homewards, and to this End you are to observe the Orders you were charged with from us under date of the 8th of February 1781 in all Points except such as may be herein after altered or varied.

2 The following Signal is established to be made by the Commanders of our returning Ships in 1783 for rendering themselves known to the Governor of St. Helena of which you are to give a Copy to the Commanders of such of our Ships as have been dispatched before the present year vizt. Furl both Topgallant Sails and hoist up the Foretopgallant Yard with a Pendant flying at each Yard Arm.

3 We have not received any new Signals from the Admiralty of a later date than the 11th January 1781 for His Majesty's and the Company's Ships on their meeting to know each other but so soon as any such shall come to our hands you shall be immediately furnished with them that you may immediately supply the Commanders of our own Shipping with Copies for their use.

4. Upon your dispatch homewards of any of our Ships without Convoy in such Season as that they may pass the Cape of Good Hope on or before the 30th day of April give the Commanders sealed Instructions not to be opened until they shall arrive within 100 Leagues of the Cape, and then in the presence of their Chief and Second Mates (without communicating the Contents) and entered in their Journals directing them to keep far distant from the same not less than 40 or 50 Leagues and to make the best of their way to St Helena according to the usual Instructions in your possession and if they shall by an Enemy be prevented from passing to that Island and be in want of Water for their homeward voyage they are to make the best of their way to the Bay of All Saints on the Coast of Brazil using the same Cautions in approaching it to evade the Enemy as they were ordered to do on approaching St Helena where having watered they are to proceed from thence in company with such of our Ships as they shall find or may arrive during their Stay there in divisions of not less than three Ships each or as many more as shall be ready to depart and passing at least 30 Leagues to the westward of the Azores Islands, to proceed as soon as possible into the Latitude of $50^{\circ} 30'$ North run down their Easting in that Latitude until they make the Coast of Ireland and then proceed to Galway securing their Ships in the safest manner possible and giving [us] immediate notice of their arrival

5 But in case any other Division of our Ships to be by you dispatched for Europe shall not be able to pass the Cape of Good Hope by the said 30th day of April you are in our Name to give them Orders (not to be opened until the Ships shall be within 100 Leagues of the Cape) and then as before directed to repair directly to St. Helena but not to pass within 40 or 50 Leagues of the Cape and on their arrival at St Helena to follow such Instructions as they shall receive from the Governor there but should they be prevented from putting into that Island to proceed as before directed, where having watered at the Bay of All Saints if necessary then to proceed

to Galway, pursuing the same Directions as are given in a foregoing Paragraph

East India House, London,
the 29th January 1782

We are,
Your affectionate Friends,
Lau Sullivan/Wm James

N B The Lords of the Admiralty have acquainted the Secret Committee that the Signals settled the 11th Jan'y 1781 are still to continue in force.

[Appendix]

St. James, 9th Febyr 1782.

Sir,

I have desired the Secret Comee of the English East India Company to put into their [Cypher] these few lines to acquaint you that the Spanish Fleet put to Sea from Cadiz the 3d of last Month in Company with two French Ships of the Line The [Illustrious] & the St Michel which were to separate from them at a certain distance and to proceed to the East Indies on board the last was embarked Monsr De Bussy well known in India with two or three French Officers and a considerable Number of Spanish Silver Dollars The French Squadron which sailed from Brest in December and was forced by Storm to return thither is by the last account refitted and it was said will soon put to sea again but are not yet certain whether that part of it which was originally destined for the East Indies may still proceed thither I am with great truth & regard,

Sir Edwd. Hughes K B ¹

Sir,
Your most obedt hble servt ,
(Signed) Hillsborough².

3

LETTER DATED 1 FEBRUARY 1782

British fleet under Sir Richard Bickerton in the Mozambique Channel—President and Select Committee at Bombay advised to look out—peaceful attitude of the Portuguese at Goa

OUR Governor General & Council at Fort William in Bengal

1 Our last was dated the 4th Ultimo. Duplicate is herewith transmitted.

2. In our Letter of the 8th December last (Triplicate now enclosed)

you were informed that six ships of the Line will accompany the Troops expected to sail in all that Month they are now on the Point of Departure two Frigates are also added and the whole is commanded by Sir Richard Bickerton¹ who upon entering the Mozambique Channel will dispatch a Frigate to learn the State of Bombay & of the War in India, which Frigate will probably arrive there the beginning of July & will be ordered to cruize afterwards for him in the Latitude of Bombay in Soundings on the outer Part of the Bank. Our Governor & Select Committee of Bombay must also order some of the Company's Cruizes to look out for Sir Richard's Fleet in the situation abovementioned they must make themselves known if [to] windward by hoisting a white Flag at the Main Top Mast Head hauling up mainsail & firing three Guns but if to Leeward by hoisting a red Flag at the same Mast Head hauling up the Foresail & firing two Guns These Signals will be answered by hoisting a Saint George's Flag at the Fore Top Mast Head clearing the Main Topsail & firing two Guns if to windward, & by hoisting the same Flag at the Mizzen Top Mast Head clearing up the Fore Top sail & firing three Guns if to Leeward.

3 In every Instance when Packets for our other Settlements arrive first with you they must be forwarded immediately Care must also be taken to communicate without Delay all proper Information to the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships & Vessels in India.

London
1st February 1782

We are
Your affectionate Friends,
(Signed) L. Sullivan/Wm James

Postscript

Extract of Translate of a Letter from the Portuguese Minister to the Earl of Hillsborough, dated the 10th of February Instant

1 As soon as the Governor General of Goa received the Treaty concluded between Hyder Ally & Colonel Assar which the Colonel had been forced to sign this very Governor exerted himself to break it & wrote in Consequence to Hyder Ally representing to him that the Crown of Portugal being at Peace in alliance with that of Great Britain, could not send any succour of Troops against that Crown & that he renounced every advantage which might result to the State at the Price of such a Convention. This my Lord is what I have Orders from my Court to assure you of in express Terms which & being furnished with such authentic Authority I do not now hesitate to repeat to you

2 In Consequence of the above Information we recommend it to you to endeavour by all Means to cultivate a good Understanding with the Government at Goa & to appoint a Resident there if you shall be of Opinion

that the Measure is still necessary & will be to our Advantage

London,
22nd February 1782.
(Received overland)

4

LETTER DATED 30 APRIL 1782

Company's relations with the Marathas—need for peace with Indian powers—Vigilance over the French

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1 The powers delegated to the late Chairman and Deputy Chairman, as advised in the Court's Letter of 31st May 1781, having been renewed and vested in us, as will appear by the enclosed* Letter from the Court of Directors, we address you as a Committee of Secrecy accordingly

2 We received on the 13th instant a Letter from our Select Committee at Bombay, dated the 23d of December 1781, containing, among other particulars, an account of the Governor General's person having been in danger at Benaras in August last, also an account of the reduction of the Dutch Settlement of Negapatnam, and of our success in the Carnatic. That a Negotiation was on foot with Nizam Ally, for forming an alliance against Hyder. That a separate Treaty of Peace had been concluded, on the 13th of October last, between the Government of Bengal and Madjee Scindia. That Lord Macartney, &c. and also General Goddard, had addressed the Maratta Minister at Poona, on the subject of Peace with that State, and that Madjee Scindia was on the road to Poona, with Mr David Anderson, to conclude a Peace with that Government. We are much concerned that an accommodation had not taken place between the Marattas and the Company so late as the month of December last.

3 Our Governor General and Council at Fort William, in their Letter to the Select Committee at Bombay, dated the 10th of May 1781, declare their firm conviction, that nothing but a vigorous and successful prosecution of the War will produce an honorable termination of it. With this declaration before us, we deem it absolutely incumbent upon us to direct, in the strongest terms, that measures be forthwith adopted for the reestablishment of Peace between the Marattas and the Company, and also with all other Indian Powers, with whom the Company are at present engaged in War.

4 We direct, that you be constantly upon your guard against the Enterprizes of all the European Enemies of Great Britain in General, but

*Reference here is to the General Letter dated 30 April 1782, published in *Fort William-India House Correspondence*, Vol. IX, pp 48-49,

particularly against the French who we have strong reason to believe, have sent a very formidable Force military and marine to the East-Indies.

5 Our success in the Carnatic affords us the highest satisfaction, and we are happy in embracing this opportunity of declaring, that we attribute our success in an especial manner to the skill firmness bravery and good conduct of Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote and to the gallantry of the Officers and Troops under his Command and to the timely aid given by the Governor General and Council of Bengal who we doubt not will continue to afford our Presidency of Fort St George every necessary supply and assistance

6 As we are at present totally unacquainted with the circumstances which produced danger to the Governor General's person at Benaras it is impossible for us to communicate our sentiments thereon by this conveyance but we cannot avoid expressing our earnest hope that nothing has been done on the part of the Governor General and Council of Bengal to occasion uneasiness to or affect the property of Rajah Cheyt Sing or to degrade him as we wish to observe the strictest justice towards all the Native Powers of Indostan but especially towards those who are directly or indirectly connected with the East India Company

7 At the close of last month a general change took place in the administration of this Kingdom and the following new arrangements have been made in consequence thereof vizt

8 The Most Honorable the Marquis of Rockingham¹ is appointed to be first Lord Commissioner of His Majesty's Treasury The Right Honorable Lord Camden² to be Lord President of His Majesty's Privy Council The Right Honorable the Earl of Shelburne³ and the Right Honorable Charles James Fox⁴ to be His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State The Right Honorable Lord Keppel⁵ to be First Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty His Grace the Duke of Richmond to be Master General of the Ordnance and His Grace the Duke of Grafton to be Keeper of the Privy-Seal

London
30th April 1782
[Per Brilliant]

We are,
Your affectionate Friends
Robt Gregory/Henry Fletcher

LETTER DATED 11 JULY 1782

Instructions for the speedy supply of news relating to naval and military operations in India

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1 Since our circular Letter dated the 30th of April last, we have received the Dispatches of our Governor General and Council at Fort William,

	2.							*We	deem
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continuance				of	the		present	War	
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	in	India							concerning
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care of	any	Confidential				Person		by	our
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William or		by the					President & Selt		
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*Deciphering of these letters was done in India,

Commee. or Presidt & Col. of Fort St George or
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 who may be so entrusted with dispat-
 11480 7110 12474. 673508 8915 6804 70808 631 549
 ches as aforesaid
 7071 438431 1315689 100 48 67520 24 87 51
 and in case any matters
 77 100 25 41 40 54. 673530 6805 5854. 6751
 shall
 12481 10911 483 2003 249 2639 1094. 6756
 1107863 8472 4133 12108 67523 80420 10618 6806
 be of such a nature as to render it dangerous
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 to make communicating of the same to the Person
 819 117889 338122 10265 380420 812509 114800
 in question We hereby direct that the parti-
 6804. 10805 7102 2656 4845 8126 819232 11582.
 culars thereof be written in cypher
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 and comprized within so small a
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 5656 6752 8044 4442. 398125 11482 8042.
 whom the dispatches shall be
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 entrusted to secrete the
 102. 296 9104 99756 30804 78089 141 118 8044
 same from an enemy in case by
 10177 981259 10267 2077 6745 4111 6804 5854
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 the seizure of the
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4899	10882.	339.	12124	2474.		

We are,
Your affectionate Friends,
Robt Gregory/Henry Fletcher/John Harrison.

London,
11th July 1782.

6

LETTER DATED 12 JULY 1782

State of civil and military finances—absolute necessity of concluding peace with country powers.

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

It is with great concern we observe by the Estimate of probable resources and disbursements of your Government from the 30th April 1781, to the 1st May 1782, transmitted by the Swallow, that your military expenses, including those for Fortifications, are set down at Current Rupees 266,48 [314 ?] to which being added the Civil and Marine Charges of your Presidency, Buildings included, the estimated amount of charges for one year is stated at no less a sum than Rupees 301,75 [726] This enormous expense is alone sufficient, if any argument [was] wanting, to shew the absolute necessity of concluding a Peace [with] the Country Powers Until that happy event shall have taken [place] every attention must be had to the payment of the Army, and the providing His Majesty's Land and Sea Forces with every [reasonable] assistance This assistance according to our latest advices, [.] be more wanted than in the Carnatic And we rely on your exerting yourselves to prevent any prejudice to our affairs in any part of India for the want of the necessary supplies

We are,
Your affectionate Friends,
Robt Gregory/Henry Fletcher/John
Harrison.

London,
12th July 1782
[Per Greyhound]

LETTER DATED 12 JULY 1782

Instructions on the route of ships dispatched from India

To the Governor General at Fort William in Bengal for the time being

1 We the Secret Committee of the East India Company having found it necessary to alter the [route] of the Ships to be dispatched from India in the Season [of] 1782 you must therefore give the Commanders Orders to pursue the Track hereafter mentioned instead of that laid down in our Letter of the 20th January last

2 Upon your dispatch homewards of any of our Ships, without Convoy in such Season as [that] they may pass the Cape of Good Hope on or before the 30th day of April give the Commanders Sealed Instructions not to be opened until they shall arrive within One hundred Leagues of the Cape and then in the presence of the Chief and Second Mates (without communicating the contents) and entered in their Journals directing them to keep for distant from the same not less than Forty or Fifty Leagues and to make the best of their way to the Bay of All Saints on the Coast of Brazil using the same Cautions in approaching it to avoid the Enemy as they are ordered to do on approaching St Helena where having watered they are to proceed from thence in company with such of our Ships as they shall find or may arrive during their stay there in Divisions of not less than Three Ships each if so many should arrive, or as many more as shall be ready to depart on the 30th July and passing at least Thirty Leagues to the Westward of the Azores Island to proceed as soon as possible into the Latitude of 53 30' North run down their Easting in that Latitude until they make the Coast of Ireland and then proceed to Galway securing their Ships in the safest manner possible and giving us immediate notice of their arrival.

3 But in case any other division of our Ships to be by you dispatched for Europe shall not be able to pass the Cape of Good Hope by the said 30th day of April you are in our name to give them orders (not to be opened until the Ships shall be within One hundred Leagues of the Cape) and then as before directed to repair directly to St Helena but not to pass within Forty or Fifty Leagues of the Cape and on their arrival at St Helena to follow such Instructions as they shall receive from the Governor there but should they be prevented from putting into that Island then they must proceed as before directed to the Bay of All Saints if necessary where having watered then to proceed to Galway pursuing your local information furnish you with any reasons for deviating from these Instructions you have our permission to alter them but in this you must be cautious that by such alteration the Convoys sent from

Our Governor-General and Council
at Fort William in
Bengal

My Dear Sir

5 Sept 1782

On the 25th when I received the letter from the Governor of Pondicherry, dated the 21st I find you were sent from Pondicherry to me when he had received from Madras of an engagement between the two fleets on the 17th of February last.

By the receipt of your letter also I find of a letter written by the Hon^{ble} the at Fort St George the 15th March to you at Madras at which you are at the present time which will be of great service to me.

I have already I am informed with other Members on the present state of affairs of India and we are warranted to say that we are only and more fresh at assistance will be given to us with your aid troops. In the mean time, we must continue to render more assistance in your power for the recovery of our possessions in the Carnatic.

London - We are
5th September 1782
Yours

Your affectionate Friends,

Henry Fletcher
Wm Pitt

hence may miss the Fleet, as was the case last year; the convoy for the early Ships being sent to Brazil, expecting the first Fleet there (according to their Instructions) but by the disobedience of those Orders they proceeded to St Helena, where by the prudence of Captam Henry they were found and brought home.

4 We particularly direct that you give [the] Commanders orders to provide themselves so amply with water and Provisions for their returning Voyages, that if our Orders, or any other circumstances should prevent their putting into St Helena, where there is great reason to [conclude] they may find a very scanty, if any supply, of the [latte] article, and must therefore furnish their Ships with such a Stock of both articles, as may be sufficient to bring [them] through their homeward voyages.

East India House, London,
12th July 1782.
[Per Greyhound]

We are,
Your Affectionate Friends,
Robt Gregory/Henry Fletcher/John Manship/
John Harrison/Henry Savage

8

LETTER DATED 5 SEPTEMBER 1782

Affairs on the Coromandel Coast—conference with the King's Ministers on the critical situation in India—help in shipping and troops expected

OUR Governor-General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1 On the 25th instant we received a Letter from the Governor of Bombay, dated the 20th April, giving an account, from private advices which he had received from Madrass, of an Engagement between the two Fleets on the 17th of February last

2 By the same conveyance we also received Copy of a Letter written by the Select Committee at Fort St George on the 15th March to your Minister at Poona, giving an account of the difficulties to which our affairs on the Coast are reduced

3 We have already had conferences with His Majesty's Ministers on the present critical situation of India, and we are warranted to say that a very early and most effectual assistance will be given both in shipping and troops In the mean time you must continue to render every assistance in your power for the security of our Possessions in the Carnatic

London,
5th September 1782
[Per Greyhound]

We are,
Your affectionate Friends,
Henry Fletcher/Nath Smith/John
Harrison.

LETTER DATED 6 SEPTEMBER 1782

Instructions regarding providing loans to Company's servants

OUR Governor-General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

In addition to our Letter of yesterday's date we are to acquaint you, that having had a further communication with His Majesty's Ministers upon the critical situation of our affairs on the Coast of Coromandel, we have written the enclosed Letter to our Presidency of Fort St. George to which we desire your particular attention, in order that our servants there may be assisted in providing the Loan therein mentioned should they not be able to procure it at Madras and should they make application to you for that purpose

London
6th September 1782
[Per Greyhound]

We are
Your affectionate Friends,
Henry Fletcher/Nath Smith/John
Harrison.

LETTER DATED 10 DECEMBER 1782

Instructions to the commanders of ships going to the East Indies—King's speech at the opening session of Parliament—arrival of a messenger from Paris with provisional articles of peace with France.

OUR Governor-General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1 This Letter is purposely to advise you that about the middle of next month the following Ships will take their departure from England Viz

<i>Ships</i>	<i>Commanders</i>	<i>Consignments</i>
Halswell	Richard Pierce	} Coast and Bay
Barnell	Robert Carr	
Pigot	Robert Morgan	
Atlas	Allen Cooper	
Duke of Kingston	Justinian Nutt	
Lord Macartney	William Hall	
Earl of Oxford	John White Junr	
Vansittart	William Agnew	

Stormont	Robert Fairfull	}	Coast and China
True Briton	Henry Farrer		
York	John Atkinson Blanchard		
Lascelles	Thomas Wakefield		
Houghton	James Monro		
London	John Eastabrooke	}	St Helena, Bencoolen & China
Walpole	Henry Churchill		
Earl Sandwich	Charles Deane	}	Coast and China
Bellmont	Wm Dick Gamage		
Fox	John Blackburne		
Prime, Company's Ship, laden with naval stores			

2. And about the middle or latter end of February the five under-mentioned will likewise be on their departure

General Elliott	John Cotton	} Bombay
Besborough	Alex Montgomerie	
Glatton	Charles Drummond	
Sullivan	Stephen Williams	} Bombay and China. St Helena and Bombay
Raymond	Joseph Hall	

3 Of the naval Force which His Majesty has been graciously pleased to order for the East Indies the ensuing season, three ships of the line and a frigate are upon the eve of sailing and will convey to you this Letter Three ships of the line and two frigates will accompany the first division of the Company's ships, on which will be embarked two thousand Troops and about four or five hundred of the Company's Recruits, and by the best information we have been able to obtain, two ships of the line, at least, will sail shortly after the departure of the first Convoy.

4. We have directed our Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay to consult with the Admiral as to the best method to be pursued for the security of the ships composing the first Fleet on their approaching the Coast of India For their fuller information and guidance, we have enclose [sic] to them copy of the heads of such cautionary instructions as are proposed by the Admiralty to be given to the Commanding Officer of the Convoy going to the East-Indies, and which we shall send to the Select Committee at Bombay by the Company's Packet the Nancy now under dispatch, with the most positive directions to conform thereto in every particular And our Select Committee at Madrass are enjoined to convey the latest intelligence of the state of affairs on the Coast to Anjengo, that upon the approach of the first Fleet, the Commander of His Majesty's Ships may be fully informed thereof in order to provide for his own safety and for the safety of the ships under his convoy.

5 The state of affairs in Europe at present is so very unsettled that we cannot give you more compleat information on that head, than may be collected from the following enclosures

6. The King's speech at the opening [of] the present Session of

Parliament.

7 Copy of a Letter from the Right Honorable Thomas Townshend One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, to the Court of Directors dated the 3d of December 1782

8 As we have received no later advices from your Presidency than those of the 8th of April last we are unable to judge of the situation of our affairs But we hope that no opportunity will be lost that can enable you in conjunction with our other Presidences, to put an end to the present ruinous and expensive war and that you will turn all your thoughts to the attainment of this most desirable object.

9 We have written similar Letters to our other Presidences. Should those Letters fall into your hands, you must not fail to forward them in the most secret and expeditious manner possible

London
19th December 1782

We are
Your affectionate Friends
Henry Fletcher/Nath. Smith/John Harrison

Enclosure I

14th December 1782

Heads of cautionary Instructions to be given to the Commanding Officer of the Convoy going to the East Indies

1 To be informed that he may expect to be joined in the nine Degree Channel by two Vessels from Bombay which will be sent out to give him information of the state of the Coast and the situation of the Enemy according to which he is to regulate his proceedings with the Ships under his Command and Convoy

2 That the above Vessels will be Stationed off the Island [] one of them from the latitude 8-20 to 8-50 the other from 8-50 to 9-30 & will make themselves known by hoisting a Dutch Jack flag inverted by the foretop gallant Mast which he is to [] and fire one Gun.

3 If he misses the abovementioned look out Vessels he is then to proceed towards the Coast of Malabar sending a frigate before him off Anjengo which frigate on her approach to that place is to hoist a red Ensign on the Mizzen top Mast shrouds & to fire three Guns when if the Fort is in the hands of the English E. I Compy that signal will be answered from it by two Guns and a boat or catamaran will be sent with a Letter giving Information of the state and situation of the English and French. If however the sending Fort William of such Information should be impracticable from [sic] the Coast of Coromandel being safe it may be advisable for the Convoy to repair to the same will be made known from the Fort by a Red Ensign with an English Jack over it hoisted on the Flag

staff distinctly separate from each other when she is to repair to Fort St George accordingly with the ships under his Command & convoy proceeding with all necessary caution & circumspection and keeping a Frigate ahead to look out & give notice in case She may [.] either of the abovementioned fleets.

4. If it be more adviseable for the Convoy to go to Trincomalay the same will be made known from the above-mentioned Fort by a Red Ensign with a Dutch Jack under it being hoisted on the flag staff distinctly separated from each other when he is to proceed to Trincomalay accordingly keeping a Frigate ahead in like manner.

5 But should the Coast of Coromandel be unsuitable & the Navigation to Fort St. George [or] Trincomalay from the forces and situatn of the Enemy's Fleet so dangerous as to make it improper to go to either of those places and more adviseable to go to Bengal, the same will be made known from the abovementioned Fort by two Pendants of different colors being hoisted on the Flag Staff and by the firing of four Guns

N.B. The Signals to be [made] by the King's ships and the Fort of Anjengo abovemd are to be acknowledged reciprocally by a repetition of the same signals to shew they are [understood, the] Ships hoisting the flags or Pendant where they may be seen

Enclosure II

His Majesty's most Gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament
On Thursday, December 5, 1782.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

SINCE the Close of the last Sessions, I have employed My whole Time in the Care and Attention which the important and critical Conjunction of publick Affairs required of Me.

I lost no Time in giving the necessary Orders to prohibit the further Prosecution of offensive War upon the Continent of *North America*. Adopting, as My Inclination will always lead Me to do, with Decision and Effect, whatever I collect to be the Sense of my Parliament and My People, I have pointed all My Views and Measures, as well in *Europe* as in *North America*, to an entire and cordial Reconciliation with those Colonies.

FINDING it indispensible to the Attainment of this Object, I did not hesitate to go the full Length of the Powers vested in Me, and offered to declare them Free and Independent States, by an Article to be inserted in the Treaty of Peace Provisional Articles are agreed upon, to take effect whenever Terms of Peace shall be finally settled with the Court of *France*

IN thus admitting their Separation from the Crown of these Kingdoms, I have sacrificed every Consideration of My own, to the Wishes and Opinion of My People I make it My humble and earnest Prayer to Almighty God, that *Great Britain* may not feel the Evils which might result from so great a Dismemberment of the Empire, and, that *America* may be

free from those Calamities, which have formerly proved in the Mother Country how essential Monarchy is to the Enjoyment of Constitutional Liberty Religion—Language—Interest—Affections may, and I hope will yet prove a Bond of permanent Union between the Two Countries To this End neither Attention nor Disposition shall be wanting on My Part

WHILE I have carefully abstained from all offensive Operations against *America*, I have directed My whole Force by Land and Sea against the other Powers at War with as much Vigour as the Situation of that Force at the Commencement of the Campaign, would permit. I trust that you feel the Advantages resulting from the Safety of the great Branches of Our Trade. You must have seen with Pride and Satisfaction the gallant Defence of the Governor and the Garrison of *Gibraltar* and my Fleet, after having effected the Object of their Destination offering Battle to the combined Forces of *France* and *Spain* on their own Coasts those of My Kingdoms have remained at the same Time perfectly secure, and your domestic Tranquillity uninterrupted This respectable State under the Blessing of God, I attribute to the entire Confidence which subsists between Me and My People, and to the Readiness which has been shewn by My Subjects in My City of *London* and in other Parts of My Kingdoms, to stand forth in the general Defence Some Proofs have lately been given of public Spirit in private Men which would do Honour to any Age and any Country

HAVING manifested to the whole World by the most lasting Examples the signal Spirit and Bravery of My People I conceived it a Moment not unbecoming My Dignity and thought it a Regard due to the Lives and Fortunes of such brave and gallant Subjects to show Myself ready on My Part to embrace fair and honourable Terms of Accommodation with all the Powers at War

I HAVE the Satisfaction to acquaint you that Negotiation to this Effect are considerably advanced the Result of which, as soon as they are brought to a Conclusion shall be immediately communicated to you.

I HAVE every Reason to hope and believe that I shall have it in my Power in a very short Time to acquaint you, that they have ended in Terms of Pacification which I trust you will see just Cause to approve I rely however with perfect Confidence on the Wisdom of My Parliament, and the Spirit of My People that if any unforeseen Change in Dispositions of the Belligerent Powers should frustrate My confident Expectations they will approve of the Preparations I have thought it advisable to make, and be ready to second the most vigorous Efforts in the further Prosecution of the War

Gentlemen of the House of Commons

I HAVE endeavoured by every Measure in My Power to diminish the Burthens of My People I lost no Time in taking the most decided Measures for introducing a better Oeconomy into the Expenditure of the Army

I HAVE carried into strict Execution the several Reductions in My Civil List Expences, directed by an Act of the last Sessions I have introduced a further Reform into other Departments, and suppressed several Sine Cure Places in them I have by this Means so regulated My Establishments, that My Expence shall not in future exceed My Income

I HAVE ordered the Estimate of the Civil List Debt, laid before you last Sessions, to be completed The Debt proving somewhat greater than could be then correctly stated, and the proposed Reduction not immediately taking place, I trust you will provide for the Deficiency, securing, as before, the Repayment out of My annual Income

I HAVE ordered Enquiry to be made into the Application of the Sum voted in Support of the *American* Sufferers, and I trust that you will agree with Me, that a due and generous Attention ought to be shewn to those who have relinquished their Properties or Professions from Motives of Loyalty to Me, or Attachment to the Mother Country

AS it may be necessary to give Stability to some Regulations by Act of Parliament, I have ordered Accounts of the several Establishments, incidental Expences, Fees and other Emoluments of Office, to be laid before you Regulations have already taken place in some, which it is my Intention to extend to all, and which, besides expediting all public Business, must produce a very considerable Saving, without taking from that ample Encouragement, which ought to be held forth to Talents, Diligence, and Integrity, wherever they are to be found

I HAVE directed an Enquiry to be made into whatever regards the Landed Revenue of My Crown, as well as the Management of My Woods and Forests, that both may be made as beneficial as possible, and that the latter may furnish a certain Resource for supplying the Navy, Our great national Bulwark, with its first Material

I HAVE directed an Investigation into the Department of the Mint, that the Purity of the Coin, of so much Importance to Commerce, may be always adhered to, that by rendering the Difficulty of counterfeiting greater, the Lives of Numbers may be saved, and every needless Expence in it suppressed

I MUST recommend to you an immediate Attention to the great Objects of the Public Receipts and Expenditure, and above all, to the State of the Public Debt Notwithstanding the great Increase of it during the War, it is to be hoped that such Regulations may still be established—such Savings made—and future Loans so conducted, as to promote the Means of its gradual Redemption by a fixed Course of Payment I must, with particular Earnestness, distinguish for your serious Consideration, that Part of the Debt which consists of Navy, Ordnance, and Victualling Bills the enormous Discount upon some of these Bills shews this Mode of Payment to be a most ruinous Expedient

I HAVE ordered the several Estimates, made up as correctly as the present practice admits, to be laid before you I hope that such further

Corrections as may be necessary will be made before the next Year It is My Desire that you should be apprized of every Expence before it is incurred, as far as the Nature of each Service can possibly admit. Matters of Account can never be made to public.

My Lords, and Gentlemen

THE Scarcity and consequent high Price of Corn requires your instant Interposition.

THE great Excess to which the Crimes of Theft and Robbery, in many Instances accompanied with personal Violence particularly in the Neighbourhood of this Metropolis has called of late for a strict and severe Execution of the Laws It were much to be wished that these Crimes could be prevented in their Infancy by correcting the Vices become prevalent in a most alarming Degree

THE liberal Principles adopted by you concerning the Rights and the Commerce of *Ireland* have done you the highest Honour and will I trust ensure that Harmony which ought always to subsist between the Two Kingdoms I am persuaded that a general Increase of Commerce throughout the Empire will prove the Wisdom of your Measures with regard to that Object. I would recommend to you a Revision of Our whole Trading System upon the same comprehensive Principles with a View to its utmost possible Extension

THE Regulation of a vast Territory in *Asia* opens a large Field for your Wisdom Prudence and Foresight. I trust that you will be able to frame some fundamental Laws, which may make their Connection with *Great Britain* a Blessing to *India* and that you will take therein proper Measures to give all Foreign Nations in Matters of Foreign Commerce an entire and perfect Confidence in the Probity Punctuality and good Order of Our Government. You may be assured that whatever depends upon Me shall be executed with a Steadiness which can alone preserve that Part of My Dominions or the Commerce which arises from it.

IT is the fixed Object of My Heart to make the general Good, and the true Spirit of the Constitution the invariable Rule of My Conduct and on all Occasions to advance and reward Merit in every Profession.

TO ensure the full Advantage of a Government conducted on such Principles, depends on your Temper your Wisdom your Disinterestedness, collectively and individually

My People expect these Qualifications of you and I call for them.

FINIS

Enclosure III

Whitehall Decr 3d. 1782

Gentlemen,

I In consequence of my Letter to you of the 22d of last Month I

take the earliest opportunity of acquainting you that a Messenger is this Moment arrived from Paris, with an Account of Provisional Articles having been signed the 30th of November by His Majesty's Commissioner, and the Commissioners of the United States of America, to be inserted in and to constitute a Treaty of Peace which is to be concluded when Terms of Peace shall be agreed upon between Great Britain and France.

I am,
Gentlemen,

Chairman and Deputy Chairman
of the East India Company

Your most obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) T. Townshend

11

LETTER DATED JANUARY 1783

Instructions on signals to be followed by commanders for the safety and protection of British ships—memoir concerning the passage to and from China by Alexander Dalrymple, dated June 1782

To the Governor-General of Bengal for the time being

1 As hostilities still continue [to be] carried on with unabated vigor against this [nation] by the Powers of France, Spain and Holland [We the] Secret Committee of the East India Company hereby order and direct you, to conform [to, the] following Instructions for the safety and [guidance] of such of the Company's Ships as may [fall under] your management, either whilst in India [or for] their return homewards, and for this purpose [you] are to observe the orders already in your [possession] except such as may be hereinafter altered or [· varied · ·]

2 The following is the [Signal we] have directed the Commanders of our [· · ·] Ships in 1784 for making themselves [known to] the Governor of St Helena of which you [are to give] a Copy to each of the Commanders of [such] Ships as have been dispatched before the [present] year Vizt

Hoist a Blue Flag with a White Pe[n]dant . . .] it at your Fore-topgallant mast head [. . . .] being furled

3 We have not received [any] Signals from the Admiralty since those [of the] 11th January 1781 for His Majesty's Ships [and] of the Company on meeting to know each [other,] should we receive any others we shall [immediately] furnish you with them, that you may [supply the] Commanders of our Ships with Copies for [their use]

4. Upon your dispatch home[wards] of any of our Ships without Convoy in [such season] as that they may pass the Cape of Good Hope before the 30th of April, give the Commanders [sealed] Instructions, not to be opened until [they shall] arrive within one hundred leagues [of the Cape] and then in the presence [of their Chief and Second] mates (without

communicating the contents) and to be entered in their Journals directing them to keep far distant from the same 40 or 50 leagues, and to make the best of their way to the Bay of All Saints on the Coast of Brazil using the same cautions on approaching it as they are ordered to do on approaching St. Helena where having watered they are to proceed from thence in company with such of our Ships as they shall find or may arrive there during their stay in divisions of not less than three Ships each or as many more as shall be ready to depart on the 30th of July and passing at least thirty leagues to the westward of the Azores Islands to proceed as soon as possible into the Latitude of $53\frac{1}{2}$ north run down their easting in that Latitude until they make the Coast of Ireland and then proceed to Galway or Limerick which Port they can make first as the wind may happen to serve securing their Ships in the safest manner possible and giving us immediate notice of their arrival

5 But should any other of our Ships to be dispatched by you for Europe not be able to pass the Cape of Good Hope by the said 30th of April you are in our name to give them orders not to be opened until the Ships shall be within one hundred leagues of the Cape and then to repair directly to St Helena but not to pass within 40 or 50 leagues of the Cape and on their arrival at St Helena to follow such Instructions as they shall receive from the Governor there but should they be prevented from putting into that Island to proceed as before directed where having watered at the Bay of All Saints if necessary then to proceed to Galway or Limerick pursuing the same directions as are given in a foregoing paragraph

6 We have given our Com[manders] secret Instructions for their homeward passage [which] you will call upon them for and after perusing them] should your local situation have furnished you [with] any Intelligence that may make it necessary [to] amend them you have our permission so to [do and] you will then seal and redeliver them with [clear] Instructions when they are to be opened, a [] Instructions from Port to Port in India [].

8 [7] We send you a Memoir concerning the passages of our Ships [together] with a cypher for the ready communication [of] your intelligence to us by any foreign [ships].

We are

Your affectionate [friends,]

Henry Fletcher/Nath. Smith/

John Harrison/John Manship

East India House

London [] January 1783

Enclosure I

Memoir concerning The Passages to and from China by Alexander Dalrymple June 1782 Strait of Allas by Mr George Robertson * in the Van Sittart 1780

* Mr Robertson went out 4th and returned 1st Mate of the Van Sittart.

This Strait extends 16 Leagues NNE and SSW, the *Island Sumbawa*, on the *East*, is very high and rugged, the inland hills covered with wood, Its *SW Point*, which makes the *South Entrance* of the Strait, extends about 4 or 4½ leagues farther to the South than the *SE Point* of *Lombok*, which is moderately high with *white cliffs*, along Its *South Coast*, for a great way to the Westward The *Point* itself very much resembling the *South Foreland*

In coming into this Strait from the Southward it is best to keep nearest the *Lombok shoar* where you will sooner get into *Soundings* and much better [symbol] ground than on the *Sumbawa Shoar*, which we found rocky and steep to, all thro' the Strait

When the *SE Point* of *Lombok* bears WNW and the *SW Point* of *Sumbawa* SEbS you will then have ground between 64 and 70 fath *Coarse Sand* and *Coral* distance off the *Lombok Shoar* 2½ or 3 miles, where, in case of its falling [calm], or the *Tide* setting against you, you may come to, with a *Kedge* or *light Anchor* very fine holding ground There are *Soundings* a little farther to the Southward and more over on the *Sumbawa Shoar*, but very deep water 80 and 90 fath rocky bottom

There lyes off the *pitch* of the *Point* of *Lombok* a small *Rock* above water, not unlike a high *Canoe* without a *sail*, distant from the *Main* about ½ a mile When you come to round the *Point* you will then open a very fine deep Bay, which shall call *Lombok Bay**, in It good [symbol] ground and well sheltered from the *Southerly Winds*, which we found to blow very strong thro' the day, setting in with it a very strong *Tide* The *soundings* are regular from 55 gradually decreasing, as you approach the *N part* of the *Bay Lombok Shoar*, to any depth of water you please, fine stiff sandy bottom, having 5 fath two cables length from the *Rocks*, which extend along shoar, for several miles, to the *Northward* and *Southward* of *Bally Town*, They are mostly dry at low water and distant from the *Beach* about two cables length Inside of them is a fine sandy bottom, where the large *Malay Prows* lay to take in then *Cargos*, chiefly *Rice* and *Paddy* for the adjacent *Islands*, saw a great many of the *Nutmeg* and *Cloves* for Sale, but I believe not of their own production

We found the *Inhabitants* a very friendly and fair-dealing People, as any ever met with, in *Eastern Countries*, or, indeed, any where else

Bally Town is delightfully situated on the side of the small river where we watered, it being exceedingly convenient for that purpose, having only about 100 yards to roll your casks to where they are filled, your Boat may lay close to the beach, if Flood-Tide, abreast of where you roll your cask to, You must take care and get without the *Reef* before low-water, otherwise must remain 'till *Quarter Flood* again

The *Ebbing* and *Flowing* of the *Tide in-shoar* is regular, rising in *Spring Tides* 12 or 13 Feet, *High-Water*, *Full* and *Change*, at ½ past

*Mr Robertson calls it *Allass Bay*, but in the *Charts Allass* is placed on the *Sumbawa side*,

9 O Clock.

At this Place were plentifully supplied with every refreshment that is necessary after a long voyage such as *Bullocks Buffaloes Goats Fowls, Ducks remarkable fine Rice Sagoe-flour &c &c Fruit* of all sorts exceedingly reasonable *Buffaloes* were 4 and 5 Dollars and *Bullocks* 7 They are fond of *red-cloth muskets knives &c.* but won't barter their *Cattle* for them however cheap large cutlery is the best and readiest way to procure *Fowls Fruit* or any thing in the small way

In the *South Entrance* of the Strait the *Current* or *Tide* is very irregular both in respect to *its Course* and *times of shifting* It is, however pretty strong which ever way it sets 2 3 and 3½ Knots p hour when strongest when you are fairly entered into the Strait you have then a *regular Current* setting NNE and SSW all thro the Strait but by far the strongest to the *Northward* and generally a great deal longer than that which sets to the *Southward*

The *Peak* of *Lombok* is situated on the *NE part* of the *Island* it is a very remarkable high *double peaked Mountain* which may be seen at Sea 24 or 25 leagues When off the *Mouth* of the Strait of *Lombok* 6 or 7 leagues It is then very plain to be seen topping over the *Western High-Land* of the *Island*

Half way thro this Strait of *Allas* lies a *low Island* on the *Lombok Shoar* off which runs out a *Reef* to the *SEward* about 1½ mile from It The Strait is narrowest at this Place formed by a cluster of *Islands* on the *Sumbawa Shoar* which project a good way out they are steep to and tolerably high in passing *Rocky Island* distant 2½ miles had 36 36 37 40 and 50 fathoms and when a little to the *Northward* of It no more *Soundings* all through on either Shoar with 100 fathoms line

Know of no danger in this Strait but what is perceptible so that they are without doubt the *clearest safest* and *best Passage* of all the Straits to the *Eastward*

G Robertson

Advertisement

I Think it necessary by way of Introduction strongly to enforce two observations applicable to all *Charts* published by me

1st. That a *Blank Space* does not denote that there are no *Dangers* in that Space but only denotes that the *Dangers* in such Space are unknown

2d. That in the *Parts* most particularly expressed It is not to be understood that there are no *Dangers* but what are laid down It is only to be understood that the *Dangers* there expressed do exist

It is also to be observed that sometimes *Dangers* are expressed in the Chart on a smaller scale which are omitted in the larger Scale Such being frequently from *Particular Observation* and not complicated with the addition of every thing seen by Others within the Space of such Chart It is therefore proper to give attention to all the *Charts*

I do not pretend that the exact *positions* of all *Places* are given, The *Astronomical Observations* for determining them are, comparatively, few, nor are they consonant to each other. In the exposition of the *Data* on which *The Charts* are constructed, I give my *authorities*. I am only responsible for giving them *faithfully*, and adhering to them *exactly*, but, in the last circumstance, although it be of the most essential consequence, and the chief merit of any *Chart*, I am so sensible from experience that *Over-sights* will happen, notwithstanding all possible attention, that I think it proper to put men on their guard and to claim the Candour of the Publick when any mistakes of mine may be found. What I have said may discredit the *Charts* published by me as defective and erroneous. I can only say I would much rather that the Publick should be disappointed by finding them better than was expected, than by finding them worse, and that the greatest favour that can be done me, is, to point out the mistakes which may be discovered.

It is however necessary to explain that I do not pledge myself to alter my *Charts* whenever any person points out what he thinks a mistake. Whoever knows any thing of making *Charts* from a variety of materials, must know that it is impossible to reconcile those materials perfectly, indeed it often happens that they are totally contradictory, in the last case either one or both must be rejected. In the first an Approximation is all that can be effected in forming a *General Chart* where I find a disagreement in *Particular Charts*, I have thought the best way was to engrave both, when I had nothing to enable me to decide upon the merits of either. My general Rule is, to adopt those *Observations* which I find most precise, where I have no experience of my own, but it will not be thought unreasonable for me to prefer my own experience, to the report of any other Person. Many men will at random condemn a *Chart* constructed on the most precise *Bearings* without having themselves laid down even a rude *Sketch*, or perhaps without having made *Observations* sufficient for that purpose. No Man is competent to judge of a *Chart* who never made One, and the more Practice any man has, the greater will his Candour be on perceiving mistakes.

In the present situation of Affairs when Ships must leave the frequented Navigation the following hints may be useful.

It ought to be a constant rule, in the day time, to keep a careful Person at Mast-Head, to attend to the Colour of the water in narrow Seas, for that will in general shew any Person, after a little experience, where there are Shoals or Rocks but, though very obvious from an elevation, This is not distinguishable to any considerable distance from deck.

Every Ship should be supplied with a few small long cask, such as a man can sling over his shoulder, for the convenience of fetching water at any distance from Shoal, I have sometimes had occasion to sling our water cask across a Bamboe on Men's Shoulders when the distance was great. The Pipes of the Fire engine are often very useful where Boats cannot come close to the Watering Places, and the Wagones, speaking of a rocky shoar, recommends the use of Plank for rolling the Cask.

Pluisted, used a Boat made of *Rattans* covered *inside* and out with *pitched canvass* for landing in a *Surf* Such Boats may be extremely convenient on many occasions

I shall conclude with hinting that Ships lying in an *open Road* at [symbol] should have their sails furled with rope-yarns and every thing ready to make sail in an instant, with a spring on their Cable to make sure of casting the right way

Memoir Concerning the *Passages* to and from China

A Few words concerning the *Monsoons* may perhaps be necessary to make the Subject perfectly intelligible and rather than hazard to omit *what is unknown* to any I will repeat *what is sufficiently well known* to all altho I mean to convey only a *general idea* of the Winds in the *Indian Seas*

From *April* to *October* the *South West* Winds blow in *North-Latitude*, and the *South East* Winds in *South-Latitude*.

From *October* to *April* the *North East* Winds blow in *North Latitude* and the *North-West* Winds in *South Latitude*

The exact period of the *Change* of the *Monsoon* is not the same in all Places nor is the *direction* of the Winds Precisely *North East* and *North West* at one season or *South East* and *South West* at the other but it is only necessary to bear in mind the *General Rule* and not the particular exceptions to that Rule altho they are many

On this General Principle that the *Monsoons* are *Westerly* on *One side* of the Equator while they are *Easterly* on the *other* my worthy Friend Commodore William Wilson formed the Idea of attempting that Passage which has been since so beneficially practised

It occurred to him during the course of his Voyage from England that as a *passage* is made from The Coast of *Choromandel* to *Bombay** in the *SW Monsoon* by crossing the Line to profit by the *contrary Monsoons* which blow on *different sides* of the Equator the same principle might be usefully applied in facilitating a *Passage* to China when the Season was too far advanced to admit the usual Course thro the *China-Sea* On his arrival at *Madras* in Sept 1768 He mentioned his Idea to me and asked my opinion which concurring with his own He proposed This Track to Governor Pigot who having discoursed with me on the Subject was satisfied that It was feasible Commodore Wilson was accordingly dispatched for China the 23d September and authorised to pursue his own discretion in the Track thither At my instigation Commodore Wilson purchased a small Vessel which the Squadron had captured from the French and carried her with him for the security of his Ship in this unfrequented Navigation

This Passage now called the *Southern Passage* was first effected by Mr W Roberts who went by it to *Persia* in 1745 and to *Bombay* in 1746: I have seen an *engraved Chart* of these Tracks and have now the MS in my possession. Sir Will James went it in 1754. He informs me He was not a quainted that it had been practised before: but thinking it a new and important point in the *Indian Navigation*, that He had written very particularly on the Subject to C Wilson, with whom he had formerly made a Voyage to India as Chief Officer

It may be satisfactory to point out *what Channels* there are thro' the Eastern Islands

Let us consider the *Peninsula* of Malacca, with The *Islands* of Sumatra and Java, to form the *Western Barrier*, The only two *Channels* thro' it, the *Straits* of Malacca and of Sunda, can scarcely be eligible, on any consideration, to be passed during a Dutch War and are too well known to require any Discussion

Jilolo being the Last Island that extends across the Line, Every *Passage* beyond Jilolo is to be considered as a Pitt's Passage, and every *Channel* to the *Westward* of Jilolo as a Direct Passage, for although Ships may get to China, by the *Strait* of Macassar, or to the *Eastward* of *Monsoon* in October, Yet such Passage must be made by the Celebes, after the ordinary period for the change of the *Monsoon* in October, Yet such passage must be made by the later change of the *Monsoon*, or the *variability* of the Wind, and *not* by the assistance of *Contrary Monsoons*

Let us consider *all Channels* to the *Westward* of Borneo, as Western Passage

All Channels to the *Eastward* of Borneo, and to the *Westward* of Jilolo, as Eastern Passage

All Channels to the *South* of Jilolo, and to the *North* of New Holland, as Pitt's Passage

And *all Channels* to the *East* of New-Holland, as New Zeland Passage

The Space between Sumatra and Borneo is branched into *several Channels*,

- 1st The *Strait* of Banca,
- 2d The *Macclesfield Strait*, to the *Eastward* of Banca, and
- 3d *Clements Strait*, to the *Westward* of Biliton
- 4th The *Carimata Passage*, to the *Eastward* of Biliton
- 5th The Osterley's *Passage*, to the *Eastward* of Carimata thro' the Islands, and

6th The *supposed Passage*, along the *West Coast* of Borneo

The Space between Malaya and Borneo is branched into various *Channels* by several *Clusters* of *Islands*

- 1st The *Channel* within the Teoman *Islands*
- 2d . to the *Eastward* of these *Islands*, and *Westward* of Po Domar
- 3d between Po Domar and the Anambas
- 4th between the *Southern* Anambas and the *Northern* Anambas
- 5th . between the *Northern* Anambas and the Natunas
- 6th . between the Great Natunas and the Southern Natunas

7th The Camel and Elephant's *Passage*, thro' between the High and Low Group of Southern Natunas, and

8th The Eagle's *Passage*, along the *Wt Coast* of Borneo

I have considered the *Passages* only as they are formed by the *Coasts*

ers of Islands for otherwise the number would be infinite every Island making a new Channel

The Space between Borneo and Celebes is called the *Strait of Macassar*

The Space between Celebes and Jilolo in which *Ternate* and the other Malucos lye, has no particular Name for Distinction, let us call it the *Celebes Passage*.

The 1st or *Westmost*, Pitt's Passage is the Channel between Jilolo and Way-Gee-Ooe in It lye Geby and many other Islands It was passed by the *Duke* and *Duchess* Privateers in 1710 and recently by *Bougainville* It has since then been vinted by other French vessels, as well as by Captain *Forrest* It is however not far enough to the *Eastward* to assure the Passage to windward of the *Phillipinas* when the *NE* winds blow in North Latitude.

The next Channel between Way-Gee-Ooe and New-Guinea, is branched out into several particularly *Dampier's Strait*, to the *Northward* of Batenta *Pitt's Strait* to the *Southward* of Batenta, and to the *Northward* of Sallawatty *Revenge's Strait* to the *Southward* of Sallawatty

All terminating on the East in one Opening between *Point Pigot* (so named by *Commodore Wilson*) on Way-Gee-Ooe and *Cape Wilson* on New-Guinea.

The early Portuguese writers say that Papua or New-Guinea as it is since called is not a continued Land but an assemblage of Islands

Between New-Guinea and New Holland is a Strait or Straits, thro' which *Torres* passed in 1606 and *Cook* in the *Endeavour* during his 1st Voyage round the World but *Cook* had so little as three fathoms in It, and we have no Nautical Account of *Torres's Passage* so that This Channel is not known to be practicable for an Indiaman

The Passage between New Holland and New Zeland is branched out into several by the Clusters of Islands from the Tropic to New-Guinea

1st between New Holland and New Caledonia passed by *Surville* 1769 this again branching into two

Bougainville's Strait between New-Guinea on the West and *Guadalcanal* on the East and *Surville's Passage* to the Eastward of *Guadalcanal*

2d The Channel to the Eastward of New Caledonia navigated by *Cook*

3d The unexplored Channel between the New *Hobrides* and the *Friendly Islands* and to the Eastward of the *Sta Cruz Islands*.

4th The Channel thro the *Friendly Islands* navigated by *Tasman*, 1613

5th. The Channel to the Eastward of the *Friendly Islands* navigated

I have assigned this name to the Point of New-Guinea, some Navigators call It *Cape Good Hope* and some call by that name a Point more to the Eastward. To avoid the confusion arising from hence I call the Western Point *Cape Wilson* and the Eastern Point *Cape Good Hope*.

by the French 1772.

Another *Passage* to be mentioned is that to the *South* and *East* of New-Zeland and

Lastly the *Passage* round Cape Horne

Of the Passage to China

It is always to be remembered that the Pitt's Passage is a very circuitous Navigation from India to China, and therefore must take up a long time in the most favourable circumstances, and for that reason, even a *tedious passage*, in the more *Western parts*, may carry a Ship *Sooner* to China from India, than a *quick passage* by the Pitt's Strait, I do not believe a Ship will get to China, by the Pitt's Passage, from the Coast of Coromandel, in much less than *four months* at the most favourable Season, and the later she sails after the beginning of October the longer will the Passage be.

Vessels cannot go by the Pitt's Passage earlier than October, at soonest, It is therefore useless for a Ship *intended to go that Passage* to be to the *Eastward* of Java sooner than October

The Western Passage is scarcely eligible under any circumstance for Ships bound to China, unless for those passing the Strait of Malacca or the Strait of Sunda

Ships by the Western Passage getting into the China Sea from *May* to *October*, having the SW *Monsoon* in their favour, have nothing to consider but security against an Enemy, and the dangers in the China Sea out of the common rout

In my opinion there is very little probability that a Ship will save her Passage to Canton, in the usual Course by Poolo* Sapata, unless she is past *that* Island by the *middle* of *October*, for, whenever the NE winds set in, They blow with such violence there and bring so great a Sea from the NE, that a Ship will make no hand of it, so long as she continues in the Funnel, made by the Coast of China and the Philipinas and the *middle part* of the China Sea, called Karang-Bander, is so full of Shoals that a Ship cannot with any safety stand to the *Eastward* till past the Latitude of 12° N

I am persuaded a Ship may get to China by the *West Coast* of Palawan any time before the *middle* of *December* I came down *that Coast* from the *Northward* in December 1761, it is evident by my log, that the Winds were such, that I could with as little, or less, difficulty have gone to the *Northward* at that Season In all such Passages, however, People must not be discouraged by a few days contrary winds, tho', if they have blowing weather on this Coast, they had better not keep the Sea, but take shelter in-shoar till the weather moderates I presume Lieut Barton's Chart of this Coast may be relied on. In the Chart, engraved from his

*It can scarcely be necessary to observe that Po or Poolo is the Malay word denoting Island.

Observations I have adhered entirely to those *Observations* and have therefore omitted *all* the *Shoals* in the *Offing* as he saw none of them My Chart shows what I saw and I have in hand another expressing *all* the *Banks* for which I have any authority

The *Space* between *Sapata* and *Palawan* in our present Ignorance is on no account to be passed, except in the usual *Track* thro the *Funnel* or in *Sight* of *Palawan* I do not believe there is on the face of the *Globe* an equal number of *dangerous Shoals* in the same space as in the *middle part* between 8° and 12° N Latitude called *Karang Bander* The properest Vessels for examining that Space are small *China Junks* or row vessels and the properest time the months of April and May setting out from *Balambangan* or *Palawan* and returning to *China* within the *Paracels* This is an Object well worthy attention

The *Dangers* in the *middle part* of the *China-Sea* make it necessary for a Ship to get over to *Balambangan* and make that Island before she stands to the *Northward* along the *Coast* of *Palawan*

When a Ship leaves the *No End* of *Palawan* the *Passage* to *China* late in the year can only be secured by keeping in with the *Coast* of *Luzon* or *Lukonia* (which perhaps may not be thought eligible during a *Spanish War*) or by standing back towards *Palawan* whenever the winds in the *China Sea* become so far *Northerly* as to endanger a Ship's falling to leeward of the *Lemas* on the *Coast* of *China* for if a Ship should stand to the *Westward* even for a few hours in this track she might be carried so far to leeward as to be unable to fetch either the *Coast* of *China* or the *No End* of *Palawan* and consequently her passage be infallibly lost whereas a few days perseverance would otherwise secure it

As the *Land* of *Luzon* is very high I think a Ship standing to the *Eastward* till in sight of the *Land* could have nothing to fear from an *Enemy* At the same time The *Spanish Cantion* would prevent their coming out of *Manilla* till they know what the Ships seen were lest they should be drawn into a snare.

In this *Track* from *Palawan* to *China* *Chronometers* or *Time Keepers* are of the utmost use for the *Currents* in the *China Sea* are so strong and irregular that no Person can without the assistance of such Machines be sure of his *Position* In the month of *December* I have been set on one day 45 to the *Northward* of *Account* and next day but one 20' to the *Southward**

Besides the Rout by the *West Coast* of *Palawan* a *Passage* to *China* may be effected at the same season by going to the *Eastward* between *Palawan* and *Borneo* thro the *Sooloo Seas* The *Soundings* between *Borneo* and *Magindanad* are very useful here for the *Tides* will assist a Ship in getting over to *Magindanao* and she may on this *Bank* when the *Tides*

One of *Arnold's Pocket Chronometers* in my possession from 23rd March to 7th May 181 never altered its daily rate in that space of 40 days so much as 3 Seconds in a day or 3/4 of a mile in *Longitude* comparing the day it went fastest with the day it went slow it This is nearer than Time can be found at Sea and therefore in fact must be considered as equivalent to no error

are unfavourable, in case of meeting with contrary winds. There are some narrow *Gulfs* Without Soundings which require attention, that Vessells in light winds, may not, in crossing them, be carried away to the *Southward* by the *Current* or *Ebb-Tide* thro' those *Gulfs*.

Ships that cannot get well-advanced into the China Sea by the beginning of December, have, I think, no business to attempt any Western Passage, all Ships sailing from India after the beginning of October come under this description, even if the Strait of Malacca be open, for altho' it may be possible to get up to the *Northward* along the *Coast* of Palawan thro' the Sooloo Seas, yet the chance is, that, the Passage would then or be longer than by the *Pitts*.

In such Cases as the present War when the Straits of Malacca and Sunda may be considered as ineligible, Ships, bound to China from India, must stand into the *Track* of Ships bound from Europe to China, so that the Directions and Observations are common to both, only, that Ships, leaving India after the *beginning* of October, will have no occasion to stand beyond the *Tropic* of *Capricorn*, as they will find the *Westerly* winds to the *Southward* of Java. Sailing before, October, it will be necessary to stand to the *Southward* to get the *Westerly* winds to run them down towards New-Holland, exactly in the same manner as if coming from Europe.

The most eligible Passage to China for Ships getting into the Latitude of 5° S $^{\circ}$ to the *Eastward* of Java before the *beginning* of November, or perhaps later, is by the *Strait* of Macassar, between Celebes and Borneo, which *Islands* are 20 leagues asunder at the narrowest part of the Strait and are no where else visible at the same time.

From the *Coast* of New-Holland Ships may, without very essential difference, pass thro' any of the Straits to the *Eastward* of Bally, and therefore, having such a variety of Passages at Choice, little danger of being intercepted in either, as it is impossible for an Enemy to block up *all*, and therefore not worth while to station cruizers in *any*, where so many others must be left open.

On making the Chain of Islands to the *Eastward* of Java, I think, every Ship ought to get out her Longboat, and with this precaution she may stand into the Strait of Macassar, on the most direct Course according to the Strait by which she passes thro' the Chain of Islands to the *Eastward* of Java.

As our Ships, during the War, must run the gauntlet thro' unfrequented Seas, it is highly expedient for them to have their Longboats properly equipped, and if their bottoms were coppered it would be of very essential advantage in seas so full of worm.

From the beginning of June to September, the Course, after passing the Strait of Macassar, is directly to the *Northward* thro' the Sooloo Archipelago, and into the China Sea, between Palawan and Mindoro. Here passing with a fair wind there is no danger of the *Spaniards*, who cannot be supposed to have any force in the Philippines, which an Indiaman need fear, except at Manila, and there they could receive no intelligence of

her 'till she was out into the China-Sea beyond their reach nor is it an easy matter to get out of Manila Bay at that Season

Ships passing the Strait of Macassar from June to September are not obliged to go thro the Sooloo Seas and the Philipinas

They may go by Unsang and from thence along the *NE Coast* of Borneo, Passing into the China Sea between Borneo and Palawan. Or

They may go to the *Eastward* of all the Philipinas standing thro' between Celebes and Magindanao

In the same season, from June to September or later Ships bound for China instead of the Strait of Macassar may pass to the *Eastward* of Celebes, and go either *within* or *without* the Philipinas There is no doubt of reaching Canton from the *Bashees* in the *SW Monsoon* as the Winds there are frequently *South Easterly* at that Season Ships, intending to go the Celebes Passage may go even to the *East* of Timor if they can *weather that Island*

Ships later than September should consider that the *Eastern Monsoon* is coming on in *North Latitude* and therefore, after passing the *NW Point* of Celebes take every opportunity to get to the *Eastward*

By the *Swallow* a log in November and part of December 1767 in the Strait of Macassar the *NWesterly* wind were not then set in So that Ships got into 5° S° Latitude in November ought to push up to the *Northward* because if they can get up between Celebes and Borneo they will save much time even if they should be unable to get to the *Northward* of Magindanao and in case the Wind takes them short between Celebes and Borneo they can only lose a few days in running back, to go the *Pitts Passage* However after the beginning of December Ships in the Strait Macassar should not attempt to *beat* to the *Northward* but in case of meeting with *Northerly Winds* immediately bear away for the *Pitts Passage*

In passing to the *Eastward* of Celebes, the same rule is to be observed as in the Strait of Macassar *viz.* immediately to bear away for the *Pitts Passage* on meeting the Winds from the *Northward* after the beginning of December

Towards the end of the year the Passage on the *East* of Celebes has an advantage over the Strait of Macassar being so far as a Ship can get part of her direct course by the *Pitts Passage* whereas if she does not succeed in getting thro the Strait of Macassar all that she goes that rout is out of her way and must be run back in case of being at last obliged to go the *Pitts Passage*

Ships not arriving at the Chain of Islands to the *Eastward* of Java before the *Westerly Monsoon* is set in, so that they cannot get into the Strait of Macassar have no alternative They *must* go the *Pitts Passage*

Of the Pitts Passage

By the *Pitts Passage*, as before observed, is to be understood not *precisely* the Passage pursued by the *Pitt* but any Passage to China, effected by

taking advantage of the *contrary Monsoons* blowing on *different sides* of the Equator

Two very important cautions are particularly enforced on those who pursue the Pitts Passage which I mention here as they seem to me of the most essential consequence

1st That from the *SW Point* of Celebes to the Strait of Salayer is not above *half* the *distance* that it is described to be in the ancient Charts, This was very near fatal to the *Pitt* and to several others of the Ships

2d In passing to the *Eastward* of Boeton it is very necessary to keep well to the *Northward* to make sure of weathering Bouro neglecting this occasioned considerable loss of time to the *Ponsborne*, and the *Revenge* thereby fell to *leeward* of Bouro and was obliged to pass to the *South* of *that* Island Capt *Boswald* in the *Cuddalore* 1765 says "there is a *strong current* setting to the *Northward* along the Boeton shoar, and no danger, being a bold shoar "

The Passage is much longer thro' the Strait of Boeton than to the *Eastward* of Boeton, the difference of Time between Cabyna and Wawony, from losing sight of *one* Island to the losing sight of the *other*, by passing to the *Eastward* of Boeton or thro' the Strait, being no less than *seventeen* days, on an average, and most of the Ships that have passed thro' the Strait have been considerably more than 17 Days longer than those which went *without* Boeton

Most of the Ships which have gone the Pitts Passage went thro' the Strait of Salayer, but the *Grosvenor* in 1762, and *British-King* 1770, passed to the *South* of Salayer, as did the *Flying-Eagle*, on her return from Baber 1672, and the *Jane* in the passage to and from Timor 1706

It must be remembered that the *whole* of the Pitts Passage is thro' the *Chain* of *Dutch Islands*, and consequently that any delays may be attended with fatal consequences, in giving them time to collect a force, and therefore that the utmost dispatch should be used in getting thro'.

I am confident Ships sailing from Europe in June would arrive sooner in China by Cape Horne than by the Cape of Good Hope, and that passage must be much safer as well as more expeditious

Of the Passage from China

As there can be no use in appointing from Europe what Passage the homeward bound *China-Ships* should come, I conceive *That* should be left entirely to the *Supra Cargoes* at Canton, according to the time the Ships sail from China or the Intelligence they may have received At the same time it may be proper for The Court of Directors to forbid certain Passages

Ships passing frequently by the same Rout in time of war run great risk of being intercepted by an Enemy, but if a *variety* of *Routs* are used, *all* the passages cannot be *blocked up*, and therefore it is not likely for an Enemy to station Cruizers in *any* of the *Straits* However if different Routs approach *nearly* to *one point*, the intent of going unfrequented passages is

frustrated because Cruizers by taking their Station off that *one point* will be almost certain of Success

During the last war all Ships passing the Carimata Passage either by the Strait of Bally or of Lombook, made Po Wawoor (or Aro as it is commonly called) which being also in the course of Ships passing the Strait of Malacca or of Sunda Cruizers off Wawoor would have intercepted equally the Ships passing by the Strait of Malacca or of Sunda of Bally or of Lombook Ships passing indiscriminately thro the Strait of Bally or of Lombook went to Samanap on Madura so that Cruizers stationed in that neighbourhood would have equally intercepted Ships passing by the Strait of Bally or of Lombook and consequently there was *no variety of Rout* by changing the Strait

It should be a particular injunction to avoid any *common Point* and that every *different Passage* should be *different thro the whole of it* and particularly that no Ship during war should pass to the *Westward* of the Anambas lest there should be Cruizers off Wawoor

Ships sailing from China in October are liable to meet with very bad weather I therefore suppose no Ship to leave Canton before November

In November it is best for ships to come the *inner passage* between the Paracels and the Coast of Cochin China after passing Macao instead of running out to Sea they ought to keep under the lee of Montania Kalong &c whereby they will avoid the bad weather and great Sea which Ships sailing early meet with after leaving the Ladron. When past St John's they must haul to the *Southward* to get into the Latitude of the *South part* of Hainan They may expect strong Currents setting to the Westward which makes it necessary to get well to the *Southward* after passing St. John's

From Po Cecir de Mar they must stand to the Southward for the Natunas keeping a good look out particularly for the *Shoals* laid down from the Portuguese Charts in this track they will have *Soundings* all the way and when the Navigation is well practised the depths will guide them in falling in with the Natunas and Anambas

They must avoid approaching Po Sapata or Po Condor

When past the Latitude of 7° N it may be proper to stand to the *S E ward* if they mean to go to the *Eastward* of the Natunas but they may pass between the Natunas and the Northern Anambas which passage was pursued by the 2d fleet from China last year it is probable that Ships may pass not only thro the *guts* between the *Clusters of Islands* but thro amongst any of the *Islands* as there is good anchoring ground in the whole space from Malaya to Borneo

In all those unfrequented Seas Ships should get their Longboats out as soon as the weather will admit and keep the head constantly going my practice was to keep a man always in the Chains with a *hand-lead* for, as Coral Banks are generally of small extent a Ship may have no warning from the *deep-sea-lead* in these passages no Ship should in the night carry more sail than she can bear upon a whid and should exactly follow

one another , * in the day spreading for observation , and keeping a Man at the mast-head to attend to the *colour* of the *water* by which *shoals* or *rocks* will be distinguishable from an elevation

The great discordance of the Log Reckoning of Ships which have gone these Passages makes it impossible to lay down their various *Soundings* with any precision, and as the Ships in general have neglected to follow the instructions on that head, It is requisite that a *positive order* be given that the bearings and distance of the Commodore should be marked regularly in the Log at least every Noon, Sunrise and Sunset and each ship in like manner by the Commodore, by *Signal*

In December, I would recommend the same general track as in November in both months Ships passing at option any of the *Channels* between the *East Coast* of Malaya and Borneo, except to the *Westward* of the Anambas

The Carimata Passage should be diversified, for if Ships constantly pass to the *Westward* of Souroutou and Carimata, that would become a probable station for Cruizers , I think it very likely that Ships may pass along the *Coast* of Borneo, but of this I do not know an example , The *East side* of Biliton is too much encumbered with *Shoals* to make it an eligible passage, till accurately and minutely examined There is therefore no other alternative but the *Channels* to the *Westward* of Biliton, and the difference of a few days sail is no object in such passages, where security against an Enemy is the first consideration

In January, Ships coming from Canton may at will pass *within* or *without* the Paracels , avoiding, as well as in the former months, Sapata and Condor

I do not think Ships intended to go thro' any of the Straits to the *Eastward* of Java, and sailing from Canton after the beginning of February, ought to pass to the *Westward* of Borneo , because the *Easterly* Winds may set in before they reach the Straits and retard them very much

Ships leaving Canton after the *end* of *December* may come the Sooloo Passage , They ought to go out to the *Eastward* of Lantao, and keep well to windward in passing the China Sea , but I do not think it absolutely necessary to make the *Coast* of Luzon or Lukonia , if they fall in with the *No part* of Mindoro it will be sufficient , Their Course is then down the *W. Coasts* of Mindoro, Panay, Negros and Magindanao.

It is to be Noted that there is a *Strong current*, almost at all times, setting to the *westward* between Negros and Magindanao This was very near being the loss of the *Falmouth* Man-of-war in the beginning of May 1764, for they were carried amongst the Cagayanes, which are surrounded with *Shoals* that are *steep* to without soundings, at the same time we, in the *Revenge*, were carried 79' to the *westward* between losing sight of the *So. Point* of Negros and making the *West Coast* of Magindanao

Ships may water at Maloza Bay on Basseelan, or at Sooloo , if *water*

* Capt Clements was the first Commodore whom I find to have practised this rule, altho' as it reduces the risk to one Ship the propriety of it might have been supposed self-evident.

alone is wanted, I think the former most eligible because they may stand out to the *Southward* of Basseelan and get at once clear of the *Islands* Sooloo is a much better Place for Provisions and Refreshments, but unless the Passage from China has been very tedious, I suppose it will not be requisite to stop at either

Leaving the Sooloo Archipelago Ships may pass to the *westward* of Celebes thro the Strait of Macassar or to the *Eastward* of Celebes If late in the Season the *Last* appears most eligible as Ships will then be to *Windward* in case the *Easterly winds* set in before they are clear of all the Eastern Islands I have some *French Journals* thro this Passage but *Dampier's* is the only *English Voyage* I recollect on the *East Coast* of Celebes It is proper here to take notice that *Dampier's MS* preserved in the *British Museum* is most essentially different from the *printed account* of his *Voyage*

I think either of the Eastern Passages is practicable for Ships leaving Canton in the beginning of April but *later than this time* Ships must go the *Pitt's Passage* Whatever the Rout be *April* and *May* are months when a tedious passage must be expected.

Ships coming home the *Pitt's Passage* should not stand to the *Eastward* thro the *Lemas* but *Southward* from the *Ladron* that they may pass to the *Southward* of all the *Bashees* and *Babuyanes* and then stand to the *SEward* under the *lee* of the *East Coast* of *Luzon* whereby they will have smooth water and escape those violent gales and the bad weather which will be met with further off at the same time it must not be understood that I recommend to keep in sight of the *East Coast* of *Luzon* When passed *Cape Spirito Santo* they may then stand away to the *Eastward* to get as far to windward as is requisite for their purpose in passing The Strait

I do not think any Ship should attempt the *Pitt's Passage* that can not sail from China in August at the latest in such case they had better remain in China till November Ships coming home the *Pitt's Passage* late in the Season must bear in mind that *NW winds* are coming on to the *South* of the Line and therefore that they must not go too far to the *Eastward* lest these winds set in before they get thro the Eastern Islands

The Choice of the Strait through the Islands to the *Eastward* of Java ought to be left very much discretionary whatever passage is pursued thither

The 1st or Strait of Bally having a Dutch Settlement is not eligible

2d The Strait of Lombock has been passed by many of our Ships but in case of going thro It Samanap on Madura should be avoided

Neither the Islands of Bally or Lombock have any Dutch Establishment upon them Both have abundance of Provisions and the few English Ships that have touched at either have been civilly treated but great caution should be had neither to give offence or place implicit confidence

The *Bay* at the *NE End* of Bally, or Karang Assam* as I suppose it to be, is conveniently situated to stop at, in the homeward bound Passage, when the NWesterly Winds prevail

3d The Strait of Allas, I have the journal of a French Vessel that passed It in 1770, and the Vansittart got *water* and *refreshments* there in 1780 The *Chart* of *this* Strait made by Mr George Robertson 4th mate of the Vansittart ought to recommend *him* very much to the attention of The Company, if every Officer shewed an equal assiduity The Hydrography of the Eastern Seas would soon be compleat

It may not be amiss to take notice that in the *General Chart* in *Herbert's Directory*, The Strait of Lombock is called Bally, and the Strait of Allas, called Lombock.

4th The Strait of Sapy, which has the advantage of being shorter than Either of Those already mentioned, is pretty well known, but as the Dutch Resident at Beema may impede the supply of Provisions, This is not eligible in a Dutch War.

5th The Strait of Comodo or Mangerye between Comodo and Flores or Mangerye I am not acquainted with any Ship having passed this Strait

The great discordancy in the names ascribed to the *Islands*, which lye to the *East* of Mangerye, Ende, or Flores, called sometimes Solor and Oende, by the Portuguese, introduces great confusion, I have always adopted the *Native Names* in preference to *error* of however long-standing,** but, ignorant what are the *Native Names*, it seems necessary to distinguish these *Islands* according to *their situation*, and to note the different names given by the different Charts or Journals

Immediately to the *East* of Mangerye lye Two Islands, Capt Pinnell says, The *Southmost Island* is called by the natives Lomboya, He calls it *Frederick Hendrick*, it is called *Solor*, *Soloor*, and *Zolor* in the Dutch Charts, it is named *Lamaquera*, *Lamazuera* and sometimes *Sollor*, or *Solor o velho* by the Portuguese The *Northmost Island* is called by Capt Pinnell Adavara Lamala, it is named *Serbute*, *Adenare*, *Addenar*, and *Adenara* in the Dutch Charts, *Sabraon* in the Portuguese Charts, and *Adonara* by Piementel

The Dutch call the *Channel* between these *two Islands* the Strait of Solor

The *Channel* between the *Southmost Island* and Mangerye, Some Dutch Charts call the Strait of Lobetobie, others the Gut of Floris and others the Gut of Congor The Portuguese name It the *Boque* of Labatovie, and

*C Forrest's View, and the Mem of the Bearings at [symbol] in the Boneta which he commanded, totally disagree, the first making the Bearings of Karang Assam Town and Bally Peak NbE and the last NW The Lat 7°55' S. seems to be absolutely impossible It is much to be regreted that Capt Forrest's *attention* has not been equal to his *ability*

** In the *Views*, of which Copies were given to the Ships lately returned from China, I had named *Gilybanta*, by an unaccountable mistake *Gabylintan*; This Error was corrected before their return It has however propagated a false name.

The *Channel* between the *Northmost Island* and *Mangerye* The *Gut* of *Larantocka* from a Portuguese Settlement on *Mangerye* but in 1755 There was no European there but a *Padre*.

The *Gut* of *Larantocka* or *Larantua* which is the 6th Strait to the Eastward of *Java*, and Strait of *Solor* were passed by the *Jane* Capt. *Pinnell* 1706 in his passage to and from *Timor* the *Journal* of this Voyage I have printed

To the *Eastward* of these two Islands is an *Island* called by Capt. *Pinnell* *Lombaty* it is named in the Dutch Charts *Lombatta* *Lombem*, *Jombatte* and *Lombat* and by the Portuguese *Maurisio* *Dampier* calls it *Laubana* *Piementel* *Laubala* or *Labobala*

The *Southern Entrance* twice passed by Capt. *Pinnell* is named by him the Strait of *Lamacary* It is called in the Dutch Charts The *Gut* of *Zamanro*

The *Northern Entrance* is called both by the Dutch and Portuguese *Hollands Gut* or *Boque* This is the 7th Strait.

The Charts of all these Channels both from the Dutch and Portuguese M.S.S. are engraved

The next considerable *Island* to the *Eastward* is called by Capt. *Pinnell* *Pantar* by the Dutch *Pontare* *Panter* and *Panday* by the Portuguese *Alor* by *Piementel* *Pontaro* and by *Dampier* *Pentare*.

The Strait to the *Westward* of this *Island* or 8th Strait is called by the Dutch The *Gut* of *Aloe* *Alou* and *Alour* and by some Portuguese Charts *Maurisio Boque* it was passed by *Dampier* in 1688 and again in 1700

The next *Island* is called by *Dampier* in his last Voyage *Misacomby* or *Omba* by the Dutch *Ombo* *Ombay* and *Omby* and by the Portuguese *Malua* *Piementel* names it *Ombo Malua*

The *Channel* between this *Island* and the former is called by the Dutch *Moor's Gut* and is the 9th Strait

The *Island* next to the *Eastward* is called by the Dutch *Kisser Feller* and *Aillang* by the Portuguese *Carcevela* and by *Dampier* *Fetter*

The *Island* to the *Northward* of the two last is called by the Dutch *Eller* and *Witter* by the Portuguese *Saltro* by *Dampier* *Terra-alta* and in the *Flying Eagle's Journal* *Lackissar*

Dampier passed in 1699 to the *Westward* of the two last Islands and to the *Eastward* of *Omba*, which is the 10th Strait

The French also passed this Strait in 1770

The *Flying Eagle's* is the only *Journal* I have seen concerning the Islands which lye to the *Eastward* of these Islands and to the *Eastward* of *Timor* except Capt. *Cook's* in the *Endearour* who passed from *New-Guinea* on the *South* of the *Aroe Islands*, *Timor Laut* and *Timor*

It might sometimes be expedient for Ships from *China* to come round *Cape Horn* instead of coming by the *Cape of Good Hope* The only Example I know of this Voyage was the *St John Baptist* 1709 commanded by the *Chevalier Surville* They left the *Bashees* 4th August Saw no Land

'till 7th October, when they fell in with the *East Coast* of Guadal-Canal in about 7° S°. Lat. They Coasted This Land 'till 7th November, when they left it about the Latitude of 12° S° From hence they went to the *Westward* of New-Caledonia, and made no Land till they saw New-Zeland on 12th December, They left New-Zeland 1st January 1770, and on 17th March saw Juan Fernandez *mas a fuera* Ships bound to Europe must not stand towards Juan Fernandez but keep in a higher Latitude

By this Track Ships might sail from China *later* than August, for if the *Westerly Winds* are set in, when they cross the Line, these winds would be in their favour and accelerate the Passage Ships intending to go this Rout should pass by the *South* of Formosa, and keep as much to the *Eastward* as possible The Friendly Islands would be a much more commodious Place for refreshment than New Zeland, and, if they could fetch so far to the *Eastward*, There would be no occasion to approach New-Zeland

Ships coming home the Pitt's Passage, and taken short, by the *NWesterly Winds*, on the *South* of the Line, before they are clear of the Chain of Islands to the Eastward of Java, should bear away for the Cape Horne Passage

Ships, homeward bound, require to compleat their Water as far on in their Voyage as possible that they may not be distressed off the Cape of Good Hope It is therefore of Importance to know where this can be done, The Places in my recollection are

Carimon Java	...	.	Vide <i>Plan</i>
Lubeck	..	.	<i>Plan</i>
Salombo i e Noessa Lombo, or Cattle Island			
Tangayan	.	..	Vide Jame's and Mary's Journal
Karang-Assam on Bally P° Laut			<i>View and Mem</i> [symbol]
P° Laurot, or Lucicira		.	Severn's Journal
Strait Allass	.		Mr Robertson's Chart
Sapy Bay			Sketch [symbol] &c
Aligator Bay	} S° Coast Mangerye	{	<i>Plan</i>
Mangrove Harbour			<i>Plan</i>
Larentoecka on <i>E Point</i> of Mangerye		{	Jane's Journal and Colombe's Journal <i>Dutch Chart</i> <i>Portuguese Chart</i>
Savou	.	.	Hawkesworth's Voyages Vol 3d P 681

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in

The Memoir concerning China Passage

1782

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B C

O D &c. and so

advancing a Capital Letter every year the Small Letters
may remain the same a Ba in 1783 to be Ca 1784
&c.

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LETTER DATED 25 JANUARY 1783

Signing of preliminary articles of peace between Britain and France as well as Britain and Spain

THE Honourable the Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

The detention of the ships, now at Spithead, by contrary winds affords an opportunity, which the Secret Committee have ordered me to embrace, of transmitting for your information the inclosed copy of a letter from the Right Honourable Lord Grantham, just received by the said Committee. The same is in obedience to the orders of the said Committee. accordingly done by.

London,
the 25th January 1783

Sir and gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble servant,
P Michell
Secretary

Enclosure

St. Jame's, January 23rd 1783
 $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 p m

Gentlemen,

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that a messenger is just arrived from Paris with the preliminary articles between Great Britain and France, and between Great Britain and Spain, which were signed at Versailles on the 20th instant by Mr Fitzherbert, His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, and the Ministers Plenipotentiaries of the aforesaid courts. The preliminaries with Holland are not yet signed but a cessation of hostilities with that Republic is agreed upon.

I have the honour to be
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble servant,
Grantham

Chairman and Deputy Chairman of
The East India Company.

LETTER DATED 6 MARCH 1783

Intelligence of the activities of certain French military adventurers who plan to go to India

TO the Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1 The Secret Committee have lately received an account relative to some extraordinary military adventurers to the amount of near 4[00] have been sitting out at Nice and other Ports in the Mediterranean, the particulars of which are [subjoined] to this Letter and contain all the information that] are possessed of relative to this business

2 Should their intentions be any degree hostile to the British Interests as you will observe there is some reason to suppose in that case the Committee rely on your prudence and discretion to take every necessary measure in consequence of this information that a sense of duty and a regard for the Interests of your Employers shall point [out] we hereby direct that you give the necessary instructions to the other Presidencies of this most extraordinary Equipment with such further intelligence relative thereto as shall come to your knowledge

London
6th March 1783

We are,
Your loving friends
(Signed) Henry Fletcher/Nathl. Smith/
John Harrison

Enclosure

Intelligence from Nice January 15th 1783

1 A French Gentleman is here perfectly simple and plain in his dress passing for the Maître De Hotel to the Ct. D Artois He is very clever and very mysterious He has bought a small Vessel about 40 Tons has on board Provisions for 100 Men. He has concealed at Nice, Antibes and Menton 57 French officers many of them Artillery and Men of rank amongst them Monsr de la Motte Piquet's son Some very rich Hussar Uniforms are making for him at Antibes He has given orders at Marseilles for Sabres Pistols &c and a considerable number of Daggers. This is the first of four Embarkations each of 100 Men all under his direction Men come to him daily to whom he gives money and they go the next day to Monaco Menton and the neighbouring Towns. He and the Intendant General of the scheme one Martell of Paris stay here The Vessel will be ready to sail by the beginning of February goes to Marseilles for the Arms and takes up the Men at Menton

Martell's wife goes, she has been here disguised for some time. He bought 16 large Oars, from which, and [from ?] the Size of the Vessel, the Informant guesses, he means [to] coast his way as far as he can. His real destination [he] keeps a most profound secret. The merchant who [frequents] him has seen in his room specie to appearance about [£ 3,000 ?] Sterg. Blank Passports from the Great Admiral of [France] a prodigious rich diamond Order, many Arms &c, very rich Horse Furniture. Those about him [pay ?] great deference. He has a Pocket Book richly [Embroidered], with the Title of General. His Letters [remain] on the French Side of the Var, [sic] and he sends [for them ?]

2 His name is Baron de St. Ge [mie ?] his father is a Colonel in the Spanish Service [himself] a Colonel in the Holstem Regiment of Hussars [in the] French service, this Order is that of the Union [or as] the four Emperors, established by the Family of [Luxem]bourg, of which he is said to be Grand Master, [] the disposal of it. He sells Commissions from 10 [.] Livers each. One only man at—knows his [real] destination, from whom the Informant [gets the] following particulars, Vizt.

3 That the Order of which he [is] the motive of his Expedition, which is for a Coup de [Main] in which the Daggers are to be used, and that it [is to] possess claims, long lain dormant, in which, if he will gain greatly, but if he fails, will be sure to die. That he was to go strait [sic] from his Port of Landing to *Damas* (supposed to mean *Damascus*). That it is an ancient claim of some German Power, not directly against the English. His Intendant, Martel, told a Person that it was avowedly against the English. This man who knows the secret told the Informant, that a French Man of great rank passed here five years ago, and held a discourse that gave him the idea, and in urging this to the Baron, he confessed it, but more he will not tell, than that he has a most prodigious command of money.

4 The Baron seems a sensible, bold, determined Man. He one day, on hearing of the excellence of the Turkish Scymtars, said to an Officer who offered to shew him one, *I shall see enough in Turkey*. He has very well studied all the roads to India, and this Coast. He seems utterly averse to the Passage by Suez, from the dangerous navigation of the Red Sea, and with seeming envy mentioned the rewards two Officers serving under Hyder Ally have received.

5 It is surprizing how secret he has been and careful in this business. From the circumstance of the 16 Oars, in all appearance, he means to coast as far as he can. The Tonnage of the Vessel is so small for 100 men, that she must stop continually for Stores from Marseilles along the Coast. He lands his People at Alexandria.

6 The Preparations for a second Embarkation are going to be commenced.

7 No one embarks here but himself and the Linnen for Tents (for 250 Men) simply served [.] He has already an Agent at Alexandria.

Why the Embarkation is made from Nice instead of from Marseilles is incomprehensible

January 10th 1783

8 Monsr de Choiseul French Minister at Turin arrived at Nice two days ago The Baron [paid] him a visit. He blushed extremely and looked [much] disconcerted The Informant is still convinced he is [going] to take possession of some rights long lain dorm [ant or] to establish a Power in India similar in [some respects] to Knights Templars or of Malta and under [] a neutral Power establish one that will add to [those] already against us. He is in great fear of offending the Court of Turin Men arrive daily Ano[ther La] Motte is arrived under a Chevalier du The Off[icer] Chavallerie hut went off in 24 hours to the Prince [of] Monaco s or to the Genoese Territory

9 This Enterprize with the acquiescence and knowledge of the French [] though it cannot be proved here one may guess [] consequence a Power in India will be raised [] European Military some the scum [sic] of the earth it is true and he himself not that deep politician he was at first thought to be Ho has announced to his Agent at Nice two other Ships lately bought up in France and now on their Passage hither

10 He showed Rouleaus of double Louis (seemingly so at least having opened some and the others being of the same size) to the amount of £300 Sttg hut now pretends his money is gone He talks of staying to fit out three more Ships.

January 27th 1783

11 The Vessel sailed last Wednesday in the utmost haste [sic] The French Consul made an official declaration to the Commandant at Nice of the French Court s disavowal of the knowledge of the Baron de St Genies Proceedings Monsieur de Choiseul saw him once in a clandestine way A Ship is going or gone from Lascinta with 100 People and the Arms

13* The second and third in command under the Baron are arrived one of them is Lt Colonel Chevr de Fouquerolles.

14 The Baron has just taken up a very good Venetian Ship of 180 or 200 Tons The hasty departure of the other Ship was arranged with the Consul that the Court of Turin might not stop her hut being partly Venetian Property it is easy to mask her destination. The Baron told a Person in confidence he had [600] overlard to march his People and Deserts to pass the [] He has picked up four or five Adventurers here [and] has some very fine men with him.

15 The Russian Minister at [Florence ?] is acquainted with this Expedition, as going to the [assistance] of the Turks &c.

16 The Venetian Ship is gone Off in [the] night. The vessel he bought is lying off and on [here] There are 60 Officers at Menton Upwards of 70 [] passed here very lately

17 The Maltese said he did [not know] his real destination, hut

believed to [sic] the Black [Sea]. He expects many Passengers, having 36 pun[] water, and 900 quintals of bread, and a cookro[] enough for a frigate, and great accommodations [fitted for] Many People seemingly military, come to see []

Intelligence from Turin, February 1st 1783

18 By Letters from Nice I am informed [an] Officer in the French service has lately [appeared] under the assumed name of the Baron de [St Genie] seems to be charged with a Military Enterprize [of] secret nature, and of some importance

19 He has purchased and dispatched [a] small Pink, fitted up with an unusual number [of] Cabbins, and loaded with arms and stores for [about 100] Men He has freighted a second vessel of 180 or 200 Tons burthen, which is also sailed, and he is proceeding to fit out others He is said to have engaged between 5 & 600 Men, chiefly French, and a number of Officers, some of whom are secreted at Antibes, Nice and other Towns, along the Coast of the Mediterranean, towards Genoa, others are daily arriving from Marseilles and proceed to Menton, or Monaco, and the Genoese Territories, whither the Vessels that have left the Port of Nice are gone, and where it is supposed the Officers and Men are to be embarked The measures taken by these People are carried on with great secrecy, and they are at all possible pains to conceal their destination The natural conjecture was, that they were bound for Constantinople, and that they were privately countenanced by the Court of France, who probably intended to give the same species of assistance to the Turks, in the event of a rupture that she afforded them in their last War with Russia But by later, and I believe more authentic intelligence, [I] learn that their real destination appears to be for Alexandria, from whence they are to be conveyed to some part of India

P S Since I finished this Letter, I have recd more particular information with regard to the [route by which the adventurers under the Command of] Baron de St Genie propose to reach India They are to go (not to Alexandria but) to Alexandret[ta?] they are to be furnished with Guides and assist[ants?] by Order of the Porte From thence they will go, [to] Aleppo, and afterwards direct their course to Bir (or Euphrates) where they will take Boats to descend the river to the Persian Gulph (avoiding Bussora, because their Leader has been informed that the English [have] an Agent there) and then in Country Ships [proceed] by way of Ormus to India Baron St Genie d[id not] chuse to take the route of Suez, because it was [there] they ran a great risk of meeting with Brit[]

Extract of a Letter from Turin, February []

1 The Preparations for the [Expedition] from Nice are carried on with continua [. . .]

February 12th 1783

2 The Person who is second in command in the abovementioned Expedition [has] been arrested at Antibes in consequence of [] of the

French Consul at Nice.

3 It is said that a Count de [] pretends in consequence of his descent from the [family] of Holstein to have certain claims on the Danish [settle] ment of Tranquebar that he has made [over his] right to the Baron de St Genies whose inten[tion is to] get possession of that place by surprize [to] pillage it, and afterwards to join Hyder Ally unless a concurrence of favourable circumstances should encourage him to attempt establishing a new independent Power in India. He has applied to a relation of M. de Suffrein's (who happens to be at Nice) for recommendations to that Commander who he says may be of service to him in a double respect in assisting him to make his bargain with Hyder Ally or in affording him an asylum should he fail in his attempt upon Tranquebar

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LETTER DATED 27 MARCH 1783

Advice on certain original packets of the French Court—copy of the French instructions on the articles of the Anglo-French treaty in relation to India—Monsieur de Castries letter to Messrs de Bussy and de Suffrein

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1 Notwithstanding the accompanying Letter from the Court of Directors was dated so long ago as the 6th inst * yet the dispatch of the Frigate intended to convey that Letter to India was unavoidably delayed on account of the non-arrival from Paris of the French Instructions relative to the Preliminary Articles.

2. We have enclosed to our Presidency at Madras two original Packets from the French Court one addressed to Monsr Bussey the other to Monsr Suffrein And for your further information we transmit you a copy of the French Instructions also Copy of a Letter from Monsieur de Castries to those Gentlemen to which Translations are annexed

London
27th March 1783
[Per Crocodile]

We are
Your affectionate Friends,
Henry Fletcher/Nathl. Smith/John Harrison.

Enclosure I

Par les Articles 13 14 & By the 13th 14th and 15th Articles
15 des Preliminaires signes of the Preliminaries signed between

Termes du dit Art. 16 Vous signifierez en consequence a Hyder Ali Kan que les Hostilites doivent cesser entre les Troupes du Roi and celles de la Grande Bretagne au moment on les presents ordres vous parviendront Vous l'inviterez a en faire autant de sa part et vous lui offrirez votre mediation pour menager un accommodement entre lui et le Nabob d'Arcot and le Rajah de Tanjour

Dans le cas ou Hyder Ali se refuserait a cesser les Hostilites on dans le cas ou il n'auroit pas fait sa Paix a l'Expiration des 4 Mois assignes pour l'armistice vous vous retirerez avec les Troupes du Roi a Pondicherry si cet etablissement vous a ete remis a l'Epoque ou l'Expiration des 4 Mois sera ecoulee ou dans tout autre lieu que vous estimerez le plus convenable ou dans celui que la Cour de Londres donne Ordre a ses Commandans de vous indiquer Vous concerterez avec les dits Commandans tant a cet Egard que pour assurer la subsistance de vos Troupes et vous laisserez les Anglois et leurs Allies dans une entiere Liberte d'agir pour recouvrer ce que Hyder Ali se trouvera occuper de leurs anciennes Possessions

Nous entendons ici par les anciennes Possessions des Princes Indiens nos Allies respectifs celles qui leur appartenoient en 1776 avant le Commencement de la Guerre. Il est entendu que les Anglois ne seront obliges de vous mettre

Article You will in consequence signify to Hyder Ali Khan that hostilities are to cease between the Kings Troops and those of Great Britain at the moment when the present orders shall reach you You will invite him to do the same on his part and you will offer him your mediation to procure an accommodation between him and the Nabob of Arcot and the Rajah of Tanjore

In case Hyder Ally Khan should refuse to discontinue hostilities, or in case he should not have made his peace at the expiration of the 4 Months assigned for the Armistice, you will retire with the Kings Troops to Pondicherry if that Establishment shall have been restored to you at the time when the expiration of the 4 Months shall have taken place or to any other place which you shall deem most proper or to that which the Court of London may give orders to her Commanders to point out to you. You will consult with the said Commanders as well on this subject as for securing the subsistence of your Troops and you will leave the English and their Allies at full liberty to act in recovering what Hyder Ally shall be found to occupy of their ancient Possessions

We understand here by the ancient possessions of the Indian Princes our respective Allies those which belonged to them in 1776 before the Commencement of the War It is understood that the English will not be obliged to put you in possession of the Territories upon the Coast of Coromandel,

LETTER DATED 9 SEPTEMBER 1783

Instructions to guard against French designs—instructions to Bussy—copy of a project given by Bussy—orders in explanation of instructions to Bussy

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1 We have lately procured two papers in the French Language the one entitled Copy of Instructions given to Monsieur de Bussy the other Copy of a Project given by the Sieur de Bussy and making Number [6 of his Dispatches]

2 As from the channel through which these Papers came into our hands we are convinced of their authenticity We have caused the same to be translated and now transmit a Copy thereof in the most confidential manner for your information.

3 Notwithstanding the Peace which has lately been concluded with Franco may have caused a suspension of the schemes formed in the before-mentioned papers as to their being openly and avowedly carried into execution yet as at some future period a renewal thereof may take place we think it absolutely necessary to caution you against the machinations therein devised

4 In a particular manner we enjoin you to keep a watchful eye on the conduct of those persons, by whose means the French were to effect their intended Revolutions These as you will observe are said to be Salabat Jing whom we conceive to be the Son of Nizam Ally's Predecessor Rajah Saib Son of Chunda Saib Pretender to the Nabobship of Arcot and Mirrow Saib Pretender to a District situated to the westward of Verdachelum

5 As Vizeramrauzo is mentioned in the French Instructions the conduct of the Vizenagram Family must be carefully watched in order to prevent any detriment to the Company's interests in the Circars and though some of the parties here mentioned may be dead yet the same vigilance and attention will be necessary towards the conduct of their successors.

6 You will observe by the 10th Article of Monar Bussy's Project that, for the purposes therein mentioned a cautious correspondence was to be opened with such Princes Rajahs, and chiefs as are connected with the Company A more than ordinary degree of vigilance on the part of our respective Governments will therefore be necessary that the evils thereby intended may be defeated. In short every method must be taken that prudence can suggest for rendering abortive any plans that may be formed by the French inimical to the British Interests in India and for counteracting their views and intentions.

7. That we may be fully informed of every particular relative to the Proceedings of the French, and of their Negotiations with the Country Powers, we direct, that you be regular in your Correspondence with the Secret Committee upon the subject, communicating from time to time, in the most explicit manner, whatever may come to your knowledge relative thereto.

8 This matter has been made known to our other Presidencies with similar directions

London,
9th September 1783.

We are,
Your affectionate Friends,
Henry Fletcher/Nathl Smith.

P S Since writing the above, another authentic paper has been communicated to us upon the same subject, translate whereof we enclose to you in the utmost confidence, having very substantial reasons for enjoining you to the greatest secrecy, lest France should be apprized of our having come to a knowledge of their schemes, and thereby discover the channel by which this important information came into our possession.

London,
19th September 1783

Nathl. Smith.

Enclosure I

Instructions given to the Sieur de Bussi.

His Majesty having caused an account to be given him of the Oppression under which the greater part of the Princes, Soubahs, Nabobs, Rajahs, Polygars and other lawful Chiefs of the Indian Nations groan, & wishing to be instrumental in restoring to them the possession of the Lands, Dominions, or Rights which were justly their's, and being likewise desirous of restoring to the state of independance to which they have a right, all the Nations of the Peninsula, and indeed in every part of India who have for so long a time been plundered and oppressed by the English Government in that part of the World, has chosen for the execution of his orders, and for the reestablishment of the said Princes, Soubahs, Nabobs, Rajahs, Polygars, Chiefs and Nations in free independance, the Sieur de Bussi, Marquis de Castelnau &c with the Post of Commandant General of all His Majesty's Troops in India and for the purpose of putting him in a situation to act with effect, as well for the good of the service as for the advantage of the said Princes &c His Majesty with the advice of His Council hath ordered and doth Order what follows.

Article 1st

If the said Sieur de Bussi &ca &ca shall deem it fitting for the good of His Majesty's Service to raise and form a Corp of Volunteer Troops from the Isles of France and Bourbon enlisted at either of those Islands, he shall consult on that measure with His Majesty's Sovereign Council established at the Isle of France he shall have the nomination to the appointments in the said Corps the Staff excepted and he shall cause such his appointments to be notified and registered there

Article 2d

As His Majesty's invariable intention is, that the number of Troops to be stationed in the Isles of France and Bourbon shall amount to six thousand effective men the Sieur de Bussi is enjoined in concert with His Majesty's Council established in those places to attend to the execution of the orders relating thereto and he is authorized to instruct His Majesty of the means to be employed for augmenting that number should it be necessary

Article 3d

The Sieur de Bussi is likewise authorized provided that it be with the consent of the abovementioned Council to make use of such Ships Coasting Vessels and Gallivats and in short all Shipping whatever that may be judged necessary for the Transport of the Troops Naval or Warlike Stores to India consistent with the natural rights of individuals in the like cases in favor of the owners of such Shipping

Article 4th

Respecting all Conventions Treaties or Schemes to be formed in conjunction with Hyder Ally &c he shall consult with the Sieur du Chemin commanding under him His Majesty's Troops in India the Sieur Cok Commander of a Body of Horse in Hyder Ally's Service &ca. and the Sieur du Perron Interpreter of the Eastern Languages in His Majesty's Service a deliberative and casting voice in this Council being granted to the Sieur de Bussy

Article 5

Upon all resolutions to be taken respecting the Provinces of the Decan, the Circars, and in short respecting any particular District the Vakeels of Bazaset Jung for the Decan the Representatives of Vizier amrauze for the Circars and of Rajah Saab for the Carnatic shall be admitted to the different Councils held and at which the said Sieur de Bussi

shall preside, to determine upon the most secret ways of acting in concert to produce the Revolution proper for the free independance of India, and for the reciprocal pretensions of their Masters

Article 6

Each of the Soubahs, Nabobs, or Chiefs of Districts contending for their reestablishment, shall be invited to raise Troops, under the special promise of the Commander of those belonging to His Majesty, to grant for each Army composed of ten thousand men, a body of three hundred men from His Troops with the necessary Officers and proper Artillery, as shall be settled by the said Sieur de Bussy according to the project communicated by him to His Majesty's Council, Copy whereof is annexed to his Orders No 6

Article 7

All the Troops, as well as their Officers, who shall be supplied from His Majesty's Army to the several Chiefs abovenamed in Article 6 shall receive from them Pay, advances and Batta, according to usage, and Treaties clear and precise in that respect shall be made with each of them separately

Article 8

Such of the Competitors for the Soubahdaries, Nabobships, Dominions, Rights or Possessions usurped by the Creatures of the English, who shall not be able to complete entirely the Levy of the Sepoys, Indian Horsemen or Foot Soldiers, shall only receive of the quota assigned to them for ten thousand men, Vizt three hundred Soldiers from His Majesty's Troops with their Officers, pro rata for as many as they may be able to raise, leaving liberty however to the Said Sieur de Bussy, assisted by the Council abovementioned, to offer, or to diminish that proportion according to circumstances & utility It shall be even left to the said Sieur de Bussi, President, and the said Council, to double the contingencies of that Army, and to diminish the other or the others

Article 9

Hyder Ally or his Heir to the Kingdom of Mysore, shall be invited to grant to the Troops composing the Corps of His Majesty's Army, as well as to the Officers who are and shall be attached to the same, the subsistence usually granted in India, not only the Pay and allowances of the Officers and the advances to the Soldiers, but the extra allowance in the Field usually given in time of war, under the denomination of Batta,

Article 10

The union of His Majesty's Troops with Hyder Ally's Army, and their combined military operations, shall not produce any alteration of discipline therein but discipline shall be observed by the Commanders both Superiors and Subalterns according to the customary rules and ordonnances as if they were separate

Article 11

The conditions respecting the subsistence of the Officers and Soldiers forming the Corps of His Majesty's Army united with that of Hyder Ally shall be clearly explained

Article 12

In the same manner terms shall be settled as clearly as possible with Hyder Ally for the warlike Stores Artillery Ammunition Waggon's Utensils and in short every thing issued from His Majesty's Parks of Artillery or Magazines landed or from on board of His Ships of War or Transports.

Article 13

It shall be also agreed that all conquests made after the junction of His Majesty's Troops with Hyder Ally's Army though even they should be made by Detachments of his Army shall be included in the mass of those made in common and each Fortress Place or Territory thus conquered shall receive quarters halves or whole Companies of His Majesty's Troops as Garrisons, or pro rata for the number placed therein by Hyder Ally

Article 14

The Artillery taken from the Enemy both in the Field and in Forts or Places, as well as Provisions Warlike Stores Utensils and all matters in general forming funds for Commerce and victualling in the said Forts or Places shall be equally divided between the Commissaries of His Majesty's Troops who shall act in His Name and those named by Hyder Ally excepting the Recaptures which may have been or shall be made from the Enemy of Artillery Ships or Embarkations which may have belonged to His Majesty or any of His Subjects whether Individuals or the late French East India Company and which matters whether Artillery Ships or Embarkations retaken from the Enemy shall be delivered to His Majesty's Commissaries in order to be disposed of in such manner as may be deemed proper

Article 15

The Officer commanding the Party of His Majesty's white Troops left in garrison in any of the Places conquered from the Enemy, shall command jointly with the Officer appointed by Hyder Ally, without the one having any preeminence over the other

Article 16

All matters of discussion between the two Commanders of the said conquered Forts or Places, shall be submitted to the Council of War of the grand Army, at which the Commander of His Majesty's Troops and Hyder Ally or his representative shall preside

Article 17

All Capitulations for the reduction of Forts, Places or Territories shall be made both in French and in the Indian Language, and the Commander of His Majesty's Troops is authorized to grant to Hyder Ally that the said Capitulations be passed in his name, but under the special and express condition that this favor shall not alter nor any wise diminish His Majesty's rights to the said Forts, Places or Territories

Operations

Article 18

If the junction of His Majesty's Troops with those of Hyder Ally shall be effected in the environs of Madiass, and any decided progress against that place shall have been already made, the siege [*sic*] shall be continued until the reduction of the said Place, the Capitulation whereof shall be made according to the 13th and 17th Articles, but with this exception, that the Detachment of His Majesty's Troops shall be more considerable, and the Officer who shall command them shall equally have the Command of the Places

Article 19

The Siege of Madrass being over, the Commander of His Majesty's Troops shall in concert with Hyder Ally's Army proceed against Pondicherry the Siege of which place shall be formed by the two Armies united, and according to the agreement Copy whereof is annexed to these Instructions under No 11 signed by Hyder Ally The Capitulation for Pondicherry shall be received by the Commander of our Troops, and he alone shall dispose of those who shall be left there for the defence of the Place, as well as of the Officer who is to command there, Hyder Ally

renouncing with respect to that principal place as well as to all the places which have belonged to the late French East India Company all pretensions as to the guarding and defending the said places His Majesty reserving himself for a more precise explanation touching the conquests which may be made thereof to the 21st and 22d Articles

Article 20

If the junction of the two Armies Vizt. His Majesty's Troops and those of Hyder Ally should be effected to the southward of Pondicherry the Army shall march against the Place belonging to or possessed by the Enemy which shall be the nearest to the spot where the junction shall be effected and as the Attacks should have for their object the dispossessing the English of the whole length of the Coast, the Army shall proceed to the place the farthest to the southward possessed by the English or their Allies.

Article 21

Immediately after the Conquest of the Settlements possessed by the Enemy or their allies in the southern part of the Peninsula the combined Army or a part thereof if it shall be judged proper shall march to the northern part of the Peninsula, in order to proceed to the dispossession of the English and their Representative in that part and the Lands Provinces, Forts, Places or Dominions belonging to the ancient Nabobship of Arcot shall be reunited entirely in the same state as the said Lands Provinces Forts, Places or Dominions were in 1749

Article 22d

Immediately after the conquest the election of a Nabob of Arcot shall be proceeded to by investing as such either the lawful heir or representative of Chundasaheb or some other in a better situation to preserve that Nabobship independant

Article 23d

The different Rajahs who have been dispossessed under the English Government shall be reinstated in the Lands Possessions and Rights which may be their due as far as the good of His Majesty's Service shall be found to accord with the reciprocal pretensions of the Competitors

Article 24

A clear and precise Treaty shall be made with the reinstated Nabob of Arcot and with the different Rajahs for the purpose of determining the number of Troops that the said Nabob and the said Rajahs should

entertain, and the number of white Troops to be attached to the said Armies, as well as the subsistence which they, their Commander and Officer shall receive according to the 7th and 9th Articles

Article 25

The said Nabobs and the said Rajahs shall also be treated with for all the Implements of War, Artillery, Ammunition and Utensils that may have been or shall be supplied from His Majesty's Magazines, Arsenals or landed from on board of His Ships, according to Article 12

Article 26

The Forts, Places or Dominions which have been occupied by the late French East India Company before 1749 or 1750, but of which they have not had possession since 1764, and which shall submit to the two Armies composed of His Majesty's Troops, and those of Hyder Ally, must capitulate under the conditions explained in the 13th and 17th Articles

Article 27

The said Forts or Places which shall not have been comprehended among those given up to the late French East India Company at the last Peace, as by right of conquest they will pass under the dominion of the united Arms of France and Hyder Ally, must be accounted to belong to His Majesty from and after the conclusion of the definitive Treaty of Peace to be concluded between His Most Christian Majesty and the King of Great Britain.

Article 28th

Until the conclusion of the definitive Treaty of Peace between His Most Christian Majesty and the King of Great Britain, the Forts or Places abovementioned in Articles 22 and 23, shall be guarded and defended according to the resolution laid down in the 13th, 17th and 21st Articles

Article 29

The Sieur de Bussy is authorized by His Majesty to offer to Hyder Ally the assistance of His Armies for recovering what the events of the present war may have put in the power of the Enemy

Article 30

He is further authorized to promise Hyder Ally, on the part of His Majesty, permission to recruit white Soldiers for his Army, in the

Provinces under his dominion and even to interpose his good offices in order that he may obtain the same advantage in the Territories of the Princes his Allies.

Article 31

He is further authorized to promise to Hyder Ally on the part of His Majesty the passage of the Officers, Subalterns and Soldiers on board his ships according to the rates and conditions settled in the Project which has been communicated to His Majesty Copy whereof is enclosed under No 22 of the Dispatches delivered to the said Sieur de Bussy

Article 32

The said Sieur de Bussy assisted by the Council mentioned in the 4th and 5th Articles and in the Papers delivered to him No 3 and 4 shall treat with Hyder Ally and the Pretenders to the Sonbahdarry of the Decan the Nabobship of Arcot and other competitors according to what is noted in the Project which he himself has caused to be transmitted to His Majesty's Council and Copy whereof is delivered to him under No 6 and also according to those Papers Copies whereof are delivered to him under No 8 and 9 as well for the transport and the number of the Troops, as for the consequences of the present Alliance

Article 33

A reciprocal confederacy shall be set on foot between the Commander of His Majesty's Troops his permanent Council in India and the reinstated Nabob of Arcot the Rajahs and all other Chiefs or Polygars who may desire to accede thereto for reciprocal guarantee Vixt of the Establishments which shall belong to His Majesty at the conclusion of the definitive Treaty of Peace to be concluded between His Most Christian Majesty and the King of Great Britain and the Provinces Lands Forts and Places of the Nabobs Rajahs Polygars or Chiefs restored or already occupying the same

Article 34

A conditional possession for His Majesty's Troops shall be particularly stipulated for with whomsoever it may concern of the Nabobs Rajahs Polygars or Chiefs according to the Project presented to His Majesty's Council by the Sieur de Bussy Copy whereof is delivered to him under No 13

Article 35

There shall be appropriated for the subsistence of His Majesty's

Troops, and for the Artillery, Ammunition, Implements of War &c. furnished or to be furnished to the Nabob of Arcot, or to any Rajah or Chief, a Revenue from a Province, Land or Dominion, of which the Council appointed by His Majesty shall have the free and entire disposal

Fortifications

Article 36

As the security of the principal Establishment on the Coromandel Coast, should be a particular object of the *Sieur de Bussy's* attention, immediately after the conquest, a Plan shall be drawn by the Commander in Chief of the Corps of Engineers, for the erection of two Works, Vizt. the one on the high ground called the Camp of Perembel, and the other parallel to the Fortress of Valdour² in the road from Villenour

Enclosure II

Copy of a Project given by the *Sieur de Bussy*, and making No 6 of his Dispatches.

The *Sieur de Bussy* having represented to His Majesty, that the most sure and speedy means of effecting a Revolution in India, capable of producing the most considerable detriment to the English in that part of the world, was to treat with Salabat Jing, the Pretender to the Soubahdarry of the Decan, Raja Saeb, Pretender to the Nabobship of Arcot, as also with Mirrow Saeb, Pretender to a District situated to the westward of Verdachelon, under certain clauses and conditions, His Majesty has authorized, and doth authorize him by these presents, conformably to the 6th Article of his general Instructions, to use the means hereafter particularized

Article 1st

If the *Sieur de Bussy* should stay longer in the Isle of France, than might be consistent with the activity necessary for the good of the service, he shall furnish the *Sieur Du Perron*, Interpreter of the Eastern Languages, with Credentials to treat with Salabat-Jing or his representative, Raja Saeb, or his representative, and Mirrow Saeb, or his representative, and after having conferred with the *Sieur Cok*, employed in the Armies of Hyder Ally, and the *Sieur Du Chemin*, Commander of His Majesty's Troops in the *Sieur de Bussy's* absence, he shall take the most serious precautions for conferring with the abovenamed persons, without causing jealousy to Hyder Ally

Article 2

He shall represent to the abovenamed persons, that His Majesty

having succeeded in redressing the wrongs suffered by the American Colonies from the King of England, and delivered them from the tyranny and oppression to which they had been subjected by creating them free and independant His Majesty's intencion is to procure to the Government of India to the different Princes, or Chiefs, who have just protensions to any Soobahdarries Nabobships or particular Districts, the same freedom and independance as they enjoyed heretofore and the same powers titles and honours as belonged to such Soobahs Nabobs or Chiefs represented by the abovenamed persons and that in order to attain that end His Majesty sent the Sieur de Bussy who is already known to them accompanied with numerous troops for the protection of a considerable Squadron which was under orders to keep the Sea and to act in concert with the Commanders of his troops for effecting the defeat of the English in India, and the compleat re-establishment of the ancient government, and the free independance of the Indians

Article 3

But in order to concur the more effectually with His Majesty's views and with the prosperity of the country the People the Princes and particularly of him or them to whom the person charged with instructions shall address himself It is necessary to raise and maintain an Army of Indians, as strong as possible the said Du Perron engaging that one of the Armies of Indians, to the number of ten thousand men shall be joined by a Body of three hundred Whites, with their Officers, and proper Artillery and Ammunition

Article 4

If the number of white Troops granted for an Army of ten thousand Men should not appear to either of the Soobahs Nabobs or Chiefs to be sufficient the Sieur Du Perron may at his discretion augment that number to five hundred for either Army which may be judged the most necessary for producing a successful diversion confining himself however, to the three hundred Whites abovementioned or even a less number for the two remaining Armies, supposed to consist of the more ordinary, or less useful Troops. He must take care to lay great stress on the succours granted as abovementioned without explaining to any of the said Soobahs Nabobs or Chiefs, treated less favourably the true reason of this difference and shall promise the assistance of the grand Army and particularly of the Artillery Ammunition of the Armies.

Article 5

The Sieur Du Perron shall pay the most serious attention and procure the most exact information as to the talents of Salabat Jing the

opinion entertained of him , the difficulties, whether more or less, that he may find in raising Troops , the different characters of his Competitors for the Soubahdairy of the Decan, their talents, their enemies, their connexions with the English, or their Creatures , so that he may in effect only treat with him, who can offer the most sure, the most speedy, and the most useful means The same precautions shall be seriously recommended to him respecting Raja Saeb and Mirrow Saeb, their Representatives, and their Competitors , with the same proviso therein, as to being under the direction of the Commandant of the grand Army, and of the Sieur Cok.

Article 6

The Sieur Du Perron shall be careful to correspond with the persons abovenamed in Article 5 with every imaginable degree of security , and, upon important matters, by means of the Agents which are recommended to him , each of them being of characters, that should mark the confidence due to them.

Article 7

The Officer commanding the Troops granted to the Pretender to the Soubahdairy of the Decan shall, if possible, be the Sieur Millet, who has already been employed in that Province , or, in his stead, an intelligent Officer, who shall have served there before, with the rank of Lieutenant at least

Article 8

The Commander of the white Troops attached to one of the Armies of the Soubah, Nabob, or Chief, shall have a casting voice at the Durbars of the abovenamed upon all military operations, on which he is to consult with the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Troops actually upon service , but this must be managed in the most secure manner , and, in objects of consequence, as in Article 6

Article 9

If the Sieur Du Perron could engage the Soubah of the Decan, the Nabob of Arcot, and Mirrow Saeb, to unite the different Corps they may raise, or, at least, the two former, according to the custom and usage of India , the operations of such an Army becoming naturally more considerable, and the ends of His Majesty's Service more secure , the said Du Perron must particularly insist on this point , representing, in strong terms, that success peculiarly depends on that union

Article 10

In case such an union should take place the said Du Perron shall with the more readiness promise a greater assistance of white soldiers and in that case the number of both quotas may if it should be thought necessary, be augmented as far as five hundred Men (Whites) for ten thousand Indians of the Troops to be granted by His Majesty to the said competitors provided always that the safety of the said white Troops shall not be doubted particular regard being had to the distance of the Places where the Armies are to act as well that Army composed of His Majesty's Troops united with those of Hyder Ally as the Troops attached to the different Chiefs abovenamed

Article 11

It is particularly recommended to the Sieur Du Perron to inform himself carefully of the means of defence used by the English or their Representatives in those parts where the Armies of the abovenamed Chiefs and those of Hyder Ally are to act of the difficulties they will have to conquer the sentiments of the people and the Forces that will be opposed to them in order to regulate by the difficulties, the number of white soldiers to be employed so that the risk of the loss may not exceed the advantages to be hoped for

Article 12

When after having strictly fulfilled the objects above recommended the said Du Perron shall have granted a quota of Troops to the Soubah Nabob or Chief he shall regulate and settle with each of them separately the subsistence to be furnished by the abovenamed to the Officers and Soldiers comparing the several Detachments which shall be granted to them in the same point of view if possible and according to the model of a Treaty made between the Sieur Duplex and Muzuffer jing continued and executed by Salabat-jing respecting the Sieur de Bussy and the Troops he commanded Copy whereof is annexed to the said Sieur de Bussy's Dispatches No 17 If there should not be grounds for treating so advantageously the terms of the Treaty must be disputed inch by inch setting forth the great advantages resulting to the Competitors respecting the several objects of their pretensions but always avoiding as far as possible, pledging His Majesty too far for the various successes to be hoped for

Article 13

When what respects the white Officers and Troops shall be settled similar stipulations must be made for all the Artillery Arms, and Ammunition according to the rates settled in the memoirs of items to be

supplied, numbered 5, under the special condition, that this, as well as the preceding Article, shall be kept secret between the contracting Parties. The said Du Perron shall explain to the abovenamed, that this Treaty should moreover be concealed, since it would become an object of reclamation on the part of the English, after the Peace to be concluded between His Most Christian Majesty and the King of Great Britain, who would then be obliged to withdraw his succours and Troops, without succeeding in restoring to them their independance and succession.

Article 14

Though the Commanding Officer of the white Troops attached to the service of the Soubah, Nabob, or Chief, ought to command, as well as settle, the operations of the said Corps, he must have the capitulations for the conquered Places, Forts, or Provinces, received by the Indian Prince, and in his name but it shall be a rule, that a part of the fruits of the Conquest, which shall be lodged in the Military Chest belonging to the said Body of white Troops, and all Artillery, Arms, and Ammunition, taken from the Enemy, shall be divided equally between the Indian Chief or Chiefs and the Commissary of His Majesty's Troops, or valued according to a Tariff to be made on the spot. In all other respects, the 14th Article of the Instructions given to the Sieur de Bussy shall be conformed to, as to what has belonged either to His Majesty, or to his Subjects.

Article 15

If the want of ability to raise and pay Troops, or standing ill in the opinion of the Indian Subjects of the Provinces to be restored to independance, or any other cause, should exclude any of the Persons named in the 1st Article and others, and if another Competitor should be judged more proper, for effecting the Revolution desired for the good of His Majesty's service, the Sieur Du Perron must take particular care to conceal his views from the person rejected, and further, he ought to encourage him, by every means that can be taken in those circumstances, to be instrumental to the Revolution, by leading him to hope for advantages the more near, as it will be the sooner decided whether the publick voice may join with other causes to reject one of the Competitors then he would do honour to the benevolent views of His Majesty, who only desires to be instrumental to the content and happiness of the people, by giving them the Chief they wish to have.

Article 16

The said Du Perron shall, from views to the good of His Majesty's Service, behave himself, and take care to make the white Officers and soldiers, attached to the different Corps, behave with the utmost disinterestedness,

stating particularly to the Indians, as well as to the several Chiefs, that His Majesty's intentions are to reinstate the Chiefs, and the People in all their independance privileges and liberties without pretending himself to any other advantages, than those which have been heretofore granted to Merchants who have traded to India, whether as Individuals or Corporate Bodies without wishing to constrain in any respect whatever the sovereignty of the Princes Soubahs, Nabobs Rajahs or Chiefs but on the contrary to render them independant of the English and of every other European Nation desirous of intermeddling in their Government He will have particular attention to laying great stress on this disinterestedness which he will support by the example of what His Majesty has done for the Americans who by following his benevolent views, are become a free and independant Power which already flourishes under the shadow of his powerful protection.

Article 17

However he will make each of them clearly understand that it is their interest to concur with His Majesty or those whom he may send to them, for the purpose of giving them Council and explaining to them the most proper means for preserving to them, after having acquired the advantages which he promises to them that even the precautions taken by him are dictated by a regard to their welfare and safety difficult indeed to be accomplished immediately on account of the numerous ties which have confirmed the ascendant of the English but easy afterwards when things shall have returned to their ancient channel

Article 18

If it should happen that either of the Competitors, whether Soubah Nabob or Chief should not be able to raise a Body of Men of the number of ten thousand Indians It will then be absolutely necessary that the said Du Perron shall give each of them to understand that there is the utmost necessity for uniting the different Corps in one In order to render it the more capable of acting with success under the direction of a white Officer and in that case he shall take care to engage the Poligars in the environs of Chalenbron, to join the Colonies of their District to that Army

Article 19

The Sieur Du Perron shall not confine his negotiations to the Competitors for the Soubahdarry of the Decan, the Nabobship of Arcot and other Districts he shall use his utmost endeavours to open a cautious Correspondance with the Soubahs of the Decan and of Bengal the Nabob of Arcot and universally with the Rajahs or individual Chiefs governing under the protection of the English He shall with caution explain to

them all, the great protection which His Majesty means to grant to those among them, who intend to throw off the English Yoke, to recover their independance, and to separate themselves from that Nation but the delicacy of these negotiations should lead him to adopt every precaution and intelligence likely to make them succeed, without running the risk of betraying a knowledge thereof to the Enemy

Enclosure III

Orders in Explanation of Instructions delivered to the Sieur de Bussi under No. [...]

1 Whereas various means have been offered to His Majesty for giving to His Arms in Indostan the advantages & successes which should reestablish in their former extent, the Possessions and Settlements possessed by the late French India Company, but the great strength and influence of the English Company in that part of the World having been seen and considered, it has been deemed impracticable to succeed in recovering the above mentioned advantages, without the concurrence of the same Indians, or of a Power, considerable enough, in concert with His Majesty's Troops, to replace those Islanders at least on a footing of equality with the Royal Administration which His Majesty proposes to establish there. If too many difficulties were opposed at first to the influence which is suitable to his dignity, yet on the other hand the ancient connections formed not only by the Governors of the French Settlements in India, but by the Supreme Council of Pondicherry, with Hyder Ally, the interests of that Chief so inconsistent with the English Influence, the hostile system which he has adopted respecting that Nation, the number and condition of his Troops which are already joined by several Companies of Europeans, both of Cavalry and Infantry, and especially commanded by intelligent Officers, who have constantly maintained the sentiments of amity which attached Hyder Ally to the French, by cultivating the good disposition entertained by him formerly, to unite with the Body of Troops which it might be deemed proper to send to India, these actual circumstances promise real advantages, if the discredit into which the English Government falls more & more, be profited by, and by the opinion of His Majesty, and His Council it has been determined as follows Vizt

Article 1

The first operation of the Sieur de Bussi on his arrival in India shall be, to procure an interview with Hyder Ally, to represent to him the great successes of His Majesty's Arms in Europe, which have decided the independance of the Americans, to lead him to consider the success of his Enterprizes as certain, if he determines his operations according to a

concerted Plan and in conjunction with the Army which His Majesty sends into those Parts, protected by a numerous Squadron (and to state to him) the benefit which must necessarily accrue to him from the extension of his dominions, by the conquests which this union may give him reason to expect.

Article 2

But at the same time he must be engaged to agree not to carry his actual views further than to dispossessing the English of the Carnatic in order that the said Province becoming free from the yoke to which it has been subjected since the last war between the two Nations it may be free for His Majesty in conjunction with Hyder Ally to decide respecting the Nabobship and to give the same to whomsoever it shall be most advantageous to the interests of the two contracting Parties to bestow it upon taking care at all times not to form engagements too explicit on this point.

Article 3

If it should be absolutely necessary in the opinion of the Sisur da Bussal or of the Person whom he may charge with this negotiation to assure Hyder Ally that immediately after the conquest of the Carnatic, means shall be used in concert to put him in the Place of all other Competitors for that Nabobship the promise may be hazarded but with great circumspection and caution to secure his secrecy by representing to him that His Majesty standing forth as the deliverer of the Indians it might perhaps offend their veneration for their former Masters, to discover too soon views which so nearly affect that prerogative that besides it would be very probably the means of uniting the Representatives of Chundasaheb or any other Chief proposed by Bazalet Jung with the English These considerations and many others arising from circumstances and the knowledge which the Negotiator ought to have of the customs of India will furnish him with reasons sufficient for excusing himself from any other than a verbal acquiescence in the schemes agreed upon on this head

Article 4

And as the views & the ambition of Hyder Ally lead him to wish for Goa the conquest thereof must be represented as the more easy when the Province which is proposed to him to be conquered shall be no longer under the dominion of the English Government that his Army being continually recruited by the means agreed upon with the Negotiator and being supplied with Arms & Ammunition it will then be very difficult for that Settlement to avoid submitting and that then measures shall be taken to secure the possession thereof to him.

Article 5

In order to accelerate with vigor the conquest of the Carnatic, it will be necessary that the operations of the Campaign should be maturely examined and discussed at the Councils whereat the Commander of His Majesty's Troops and Hyder Ally are equally to preside, and military knowledge being most essentially one of the means which must conduce the most to the success to be expected, and for which Europeans are particularly distinguished, and more especially the *Sieur de Bussy*, who besides will consult with the Commander of the Squadron, it is essential that the Council, upon an equality of votes be decided by the opinion of the Commander of His Majesty's Troops. Much wisdom and attention must be exerted most particularly in the discussion of this matter, in order that it may be granted without restriction as one of the principal matters for the advantage of His Majesty's Service.

Article 6

Whenever any demands shall be under discussion by Hyder Ally or his Durbar, which shall not have been decided on in the *Sieur de Bussy's* Instructions, and which however shall be so essential as to bring in question His Majesty's Interests, at the same time that they may appear likely to have influence on the confidence which Hyder Ally should have, the subject shall be seriously discussed in the Council mentioned in the Article of the *Sieur de Bussy's* general Instructions and on a supposition that they may be required at the risk of the advantage of His Majesty's Service, they shall be granted with every restriction that can be obtained, and under the express condition that the Convention then made shall require His Majesty's concurrence and agreement before it can be absolutely settled.

Article 7

All the Places not comprehended within the limits or agreements to be settled with England at the Treaty of Peace to be concluded between His Most Christian Majesty and the King of Great Britain, which shall be deemed useful for the Council at which the *Sieur de Bussy* is to preside, and the possession whereof may be deemed advantageous, as well for the benefit of the Commerce of His Majesty's Subjects, as to maintain the kind of union which ought to subsist between the Indian Chiefs and the Commanders of His Majesty's Troops, shall be in the possession and government of the said Troops and their Officers under the protection and name of the Soubah, Nabob or Rajah of the District wherein they may be. Either of the said Soubahs, Nabobs or Rajahs, shall have in the Place thus occupied, a Representative empowered to support against every European Competitor, the rights & privileges of the Master whom he represents,

so that there shall be formed on this head with the Soubahs Nabobs or Rajahs, Treaties of conditional possession by His Majesty's Troops, on the reciprocal condition of guarantying the said Possessions

Article 8

The Revenues of the Places thus occupied shall be lodged in the Chest of the Representative of the Soubah Nabob or Rajah who shall be charged with six eighths of the pay and allowances of the Officers & Soldiers, and of the means of defence supposing an Attack from any Enemy The other two eights shall be placed in His Majesty's Chest or supplied by His Council

Article 9

A Treaty shall be made in like manner with the said Persons for furnishing arms and warlike ammunition for the preservation and defence of the Places occupied as above stated at the moderate price mentioned in Article 19 of the List marked B

Article 10

The Sieur de Bussy shall take particular care to represent to Hyder Ally and to the several Soubahs Nabobs and Rajahs with whom he shall treat that it is of Importance to His Majesty's dignity that the said Persons shall not form any kind of Treaty with any European Nation that if the exigency of affairs should require it or engagements of that nature should be deemed necessary they shall not nevertheless be undertaken, but with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Officers the even such Treaty should be of little Importance because it is absolutely necessary and by a reciprocal obligation agreed that all Conventions formed between the contracting Parties shall be known only by themselves, without any other Nation whether in Europe or in India being permitted to interfere therein without the mutual consent of the said Parties

Article 11

The Sieur de Bussy shall take care to remark to Hyder Ally and other Soubahs Nabobs or Rajahs that forming an union such as he will propose to them founded on views which have been so long in contemplation, is labouring with every success that may be expected for their safety their glory and for the advantage of their reciprocal pretensions at the same time that His Majesty's views are disinterested that he only wishes to restore to them and to all India the free Independance that is proper for them & that whenever certain objects proposed do not appear to

accord with that design, that apparent sort of contradiction must be attributed to the necessity of assisting them the more effectually but that as soon as India which has so long been plundered & oppressed by the avarice and despotism of the English, shall have recovered her privileges, His Majesty will then give them all proofs of His disinterestedness, reserving to Himself merely the privileges of Trade, which privileges he will only hold of them, confining to that point, all the acknowledgment which the great expenses and the powerful succours that He grants and will grant to them, might entitle Him to require and expect from them.

Article 12

All the exceptions as to the Articles of the Treaties with Hyder Ally or the Nabob of Arcot on the Coast of Coromandel, shall take place respecting the Nabobs of the Decan and of Bengal, not only as to the manner of holding possession conditionally under their name, but regarding the subsistence of the Troops, taking care to distinguish as far as possible, the Treaties or Articles of the said Treaties which shall be for the benefit of His Majesty's Service, from those which may be too advantageous to one of the Indian Chiefs and detrimental to the others, as also the Places possessed in their name by His Majesty's Troops from those which are to be protected or defended by the said Troops for the particular advantage of one or of all the said Chiefs, taking the precaution of stipulating as to the latter, for the supplies of arms and warlike Stores, according to the Tariff for Merchandize settled in the List marked B and for the Treatment of the Troops, as it is stated in Article 7 of the Sieur de Bussy's general Instructions

Article 13

The taking possession of any Place, either for Hyder Ally, or for any Souba, Nabob or Rajah, shall be accompanied by a Privilege in favor of His Majesty's Subjects exclusive of every other European Nation The Sieur de Bussy shall take care to explain to the Chiefs with whom he shall treat, on this subject, that this kind of privilege is a just, and but a trifling recompense, for the expenses imposed on His Majesty by this war, that moreover the precautions taken, or which are to be taken by administration and the Instructions given to the Council of Pondicherry, are, and will be, consonant to the gracious Intentions of His Majesty, to treat the Indian Manufacturers with kindness and particularly on principles of moderation far different from the tyranny to which they have been subjected, and under which they have been so long kept by the English That considering these reasons he must insist that those Islanders be excluded from all connection between His Majesty's Subjects and the said Manufacturers, that however, His said Majesty wishing likewise to encrease the Articles of European Consumption that are manufactured in India and as

the demands of His Majesty's Subjects are or may be inferior to the quantity of Articles manufactured the other European Nations shall be invited to supply themselves therewith paying an export duty on the goods or manufactures to be settled with the Council of Pondicherry, in such case only as when there shall appear to be a superfluity of goods or manufactures for the current year

Article 14

The Sieur de Bussai will take particular care constantly to establish the total exclusion of the English as the basis of all these Treaties with the Indian Chiefs and as it is possible that the future obligation of Treaties may render it necessary for him to qualify those exceptions or that exclusion, he must neglect nothing to make them take the most guarded precautions so as to be master of future events This ought especially to direct the united Armies to undertake the liberation and recovery of a territory and afterwards of a Province which he must confine himself to accomplish before he engages in any schemes of conquest.

Article 15

In all cases wherein the ambition of Hyder Ally shall be in contradiction to His Majesty's views which are sufficiently explained in the Sieur de Bussai's instructions or known to him respecting the several Combinations, and the junction of the several Armies as well as of those raised by Rajah Saeb Bazalet Jung or their Representatives well inclined to the interest of His Majesty's Service the said Sieur de Bussai shall take care to persuade the said Hyder Ally that it is his interest to appear for the moment to lose sight of his own views, in order to apply his attention wholly to the Revolution which is to wrest from the English the dominion which they have so rigorously exercised in all Places where their Creatures, or those protected by them command That in the first Place it is their interest to accelerate their expulsion and that then His Majesty or His Troops have orders to cooperate with the object of his wishes The said de Bussai will especially observe to turn the views of that Chief towards Goa and to represent to him the conquest thereof as more profitable than the Nabobship of Arcot at the same time not discovering too far what are His Majesty's designs respecting that Nabobship or respecting any other Sovereignty in India

Article 16

The Sieur de Bussai shall also without going too far and without discovering himself endeavor to open a friendly correspondence with the King of Tanjore He is authorized to release him from all claims that His

Majesty's Subjects may have upon him, as a Member of the late Company He shall promise him the assistance of His Majesty's Armies, and the junction of Hyder Ally's Army, in order that, agreeably to the promises of the latter, he may obtain satisfaction on the subjects of complaint, that he may have against the English Government

Article 17

The Sieur de Bussi shall take care to send to Bengal, one or more of the Persons whom he has appointed, for the purpose of gaining exact information of the situation of the English in that Soubaship, of the means of reestablishing the ancient Government there, and of protecting the Soubah should there be occasion for it, or to elect a new one, should such an election be advantageous, a distinction which he must particularly observe And he must put in charge one of the Persons whom he has himself named for what respects Coromandel, and as far as Cape Comorin, as also the two Persons charged with the King's orders, which they shall produce to him on his embarking at the Coast of Coromandel for Bengal

Article 19*

He shall announce to the Indian Chief as well as to the Indians themselves, (agreeably to the Memoire which the Sieur du Perron is Commissioned to publish in India) the restoration of the Indian Government, as well respecting the legislative Power, as the mode of raising the Revenues without the assistance of Europeans, His Majesty forbidding any of His Subjects to take charge of the management of any Lands in India in future, not only of such as belong to the Individual Chiefs, Soubahs, Nabobs or Rajahs, but of such Lands as do or shall belong to His Majesty, or to any corporate Body dependant on His Majesty, as being contrary to the tranquility & happiness of the Indians, and to the oeconomy of their Lands or Possessions

LETTER DATED 19 DECEMBER 1783

Cautionary instructions to the commanders of British ships.

TO the Governor General of Fort William in Bengal for the time being

1 We the Secret Committee of the East India Company do not in the present peaceable Situation of public Affairs esteem it necessary to give the Commanders of the Company's Ships taken up this Season, any cau-

*Apparently Copyist's error.

tionary [Instructions] for their Safety during their Voyages, than are communicated to them in their general Instructions from the [Court] of Directors and have therefore only enforced their most punctual obedience to those Instructions.

2. All the said Commanders will be furnished with orders from us that after making St Helena homeward bound they do bring to at a proper Distance to windward of the Island and send a Boat ashore with an officer to acquaint the Governor who they are [and] ordering such officer to return on board forthwith that they may know whether they can with safety go [on] the Road and on their making Sail for it they are to shew this Signal vizt

Hoist your Union Jack upon the Foretopgallant Masthead

3 Should there remain to be dispatched by you any Ships of a former Season whose Commanders cannot have received the above Signal, you are to communicate it to them with an Injunction to keep the same entirely secret.

East India House
10th Decembar 1783
[Per Hillsborough]

We are,
Your loving friends,
Nath Smith/W Devaynez/John Roberts

17

LETTER DATED 10 MARCH 1784

Need for acquiring knowledge of the dispositions of the country powers—expediency of establishing the residencies—military establishments to be reduced not below peace level—Bengal and Oudh to be well protected—need to replenish treasury and secure the attachment of country powers to British interests

Substance of a Secret Letter to Governor General

1 That the present Occasion requires the best and earliest Information which can be obtained of all that is passing in different Darbars of India and of the Disposition of Intentions of the Country Powers towards the English & French Nations in respect to the Views which the French appear by the Papers before us to entertain against the Company & their Allies and that every prudent Means of Conciliation be added to reconcile them where they may be adverse to English Interest

2. That Residencies ought to be established for these and no other present objects at the Court of Delhi and at Poona and likewise at the Court of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan when Peace shall have been concluded with him that in the mean Time the [Commissioners] from Fort St George be made acquainted in the most private Manner with the Intelligence from England and desired to give every Information in Their

Power to the Right Hon'ble the Our Select Committee, who should acquaint us from Time to Time with [.] to what they may have been able to discover in Relation to any Intrigues of Mr Bussy and which they judge will be the probable Effects of them.

2 That the Governor General should endeavour to *reconcile* Mahajee Sindia to the Residence of a Minister from this Government at Poona.

3 That the Govr Genl should appoint the Minister at the Court of Delhi and at Poona

4 That Mr R Johnson at Hyderabad and Mr Crommlin at Goa should be informed and instructed as in the First Memorandum

5 That altho' it will be necessary to reduce the Expence of the Army on this Establishment, it will not be proper to reduce its actual strength below the Peace Establishment

6 That Bengal and the Vizier's Dominions should be gradually put into the best State of Defence possible, but under such Prettexts and by such Measures as will not give Alarm to the Inhabitants

7 That the Govr Genl be requested to suggest to the Board such Means as may occur to him for introducing Cash into the Company's Treasury to lessen the Demands now upon them & to supply Resources for carrying on a War in the different Parts of India, if the French Intrigues should take Effect

8 That the Govr General be desired to use his best Endeavour to confirm the Country Powers in their attachment to the Company's Interests, so as to preclude any Effect hostile to the Company from the French Negotiations

9 That the Govr Genl be requested to deliver his Opinion on the Durable line which ought to be preserved by the Company with respect to the different Powers of Hindostan and Decan, that our situation may be clearly before us, and that he will also advise the Instructions to be sent to Ft St George and Bombay

16 March 1784

LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1785

The harbour of Nankari on Nicobar Islands—its importance—need for survey and settlement.

TO the Governor General and Council of Bengal.

1 The situation and excellence of Noncowerey Harbour on the Nicobar Islands make the possession of an Establishment there a matter of such importance, as to engage our attention and induce us to determine upon losing no time in

Most Secret and
Confidential

tionary [instructions] for their Safety during their Voyages, than are communicated to them in their general Instructions from the [Court] of Directors, and have therefore only enforced their most punctual obedience to those Instructions.

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Hoist your Union Jack upon the Foretopgallant Masthead

3 Should there remain to be dispatched by you any Ships of a former Season whose Commanders cannot have received the above Signal, you are to communicate it to them with an Injunction to keep the same entirely secret.

East India House
19th December 1783
[Per Hillsborough]

We are
Your loving friends
Nath Smith/W Devaynez/John Roberts

LETTER DATED 16 MARCH 1784

Need for acquiring knowledge of the dispositions of the country powers—expediency of establishing the residencies—military establishments to be reduced not below peace level—Bengal and Oudh to be well protected—need to replenish treasury and secure the attachment of country powers to British interests

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16 March 1784

18

LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1785

The harbour of Nankari on Nicobar Islands—its importance—need for survey and settlement.

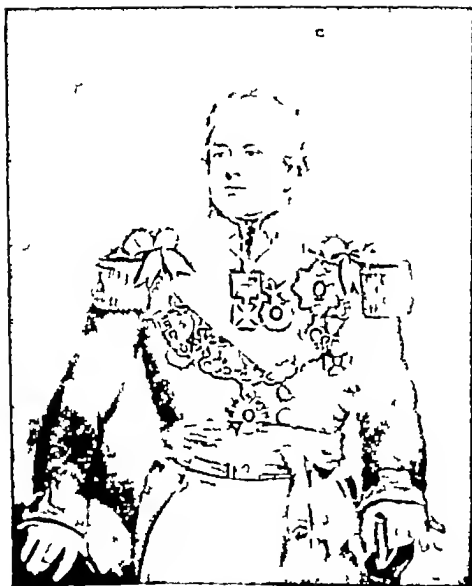
TO the Governor General and Council of Bengal.

1 The situation and excellence of Noncowerey Harbour on the Nicobar Islands make the possession of an Establishment there a matter of such importance, as to engage our attention and induce us to determine upon losing no time in

Most Secret and
Confidential

taking the necessary steps for preventing any other Power from acquiring a right which might hereafter be prejudicial to our Interests in India. As the Nicobar Islands cannot be an object in a commercial light adequate to the most inconsiderable expence which could attend a Settlement at the same time that their situation would give the greatest alarm to our Possessions and the most effectual check to our operations in a future War in which any European Power might be a Party an anxious desire to hold possession of them would alone indicate in any other power a system of Hostilities which cannot too soon be counteracted. Should no such designs be entertained, there can be no doubt but that any Power which may be supposed to have a Settlement there would easily be induced to relinquish it.

2 The great uncertainty in which we are with respect to the actual state of the possession of those Islands necessarily makes our Instructions discretionary. It has been supposed that there are actually Settlements made by both the Danes and Imperialists in these Islands but whether both on the same Islands is uncertain or whether either of them are upon the Island of Noncowerey the one of most importance from the situation of the Harbour or whether both these Settlements have not been deserted as burthensome and useless. You are therefore to take the earliest convenient opportunity of sending a prudent and well qualified Person to examine the State of those Islands and if he shall find no Factory or Establishment of any European Nation settled there to take immediate possession of them and to use every means to conciliate the affections of the Natives and obtain their consent. If he shall find that the Settlements of other Europeans are not upon Noncowerey Island but on either or both the others he is then to make a settlement on that Island. If either or both should have settled on that Island he is to endeavour to obtain by the most prudent and effectual means the concurrence or connivance of their Chiefs to make an Establishment. Should there be any dispute between the Danes and Imperialists founded upon the Danish claim of exclusive right by priority of settlement he is to be careful not to do any thing which may weaken that claim as there is every reason to believe that a transfer of it may be obtained in our favor by negotiation with the Danes. Should circumstances make it advisable we may avail ourselves of a claim founded upon these Islands having been visited and stocked by Mr Dalrymple under the orders of Governor Pigot in 1762 and afterwards visited and surveyed in 1771 by Captain Ritchie under the orders of the Government of Bengal. You will understand that it is not our intention that you should proceed to make any expensive Establishment or to fortify the Harbour but merely to inform yourself of the precise state of those Islands and if practicable to make such a Settlement as may establish a right of possession and to give us the earliest information of your proceedings that we may be enabled to take without loss of time the most effectual measures for rendering the Settlement permanent and useful.



Major General Sir Archibald Campbell

3 We enclose a Chart* of those Islands by which you will observe that the Island by us called Noncowerey is the most southern of the three

London,
12th April 1785.
[Per Deptford]

We are,
Your loving friends,
Nathl Smith/W Devaynez/
Lau Sullivan

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LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1785

Macartney's appointment as the Governor General of Bengal—Campbell as Governor of Madras—instructions on the Carnatic

To the Right Hon'ble George Lord Macartney, K B

My Lord,

1 Before the receipt of this Letter, your Lordship, we trust will have heard of your appointment to the Government General of Bengal, of the appointment of Governor Campbell to the Government of Fort St George In the unsettled state of your Government, arising from the change of it's President, we apprehend there would be inconveniences both of a public and private nature, if your Lordship almost in the moment of your departure were to be embarrassed with the negotiations which we have directed to take place with the Nabob of Arcot and the Rajah of Tanjore, on occasion of the surrender of the assignment of the Nabob's Revenues We therefore think it eligible to direct you to suspend the execution of our orders with regard to the surrender of the assignment, & the arrangements intended to accompany the surrender 'till the arrival of Governor Campbell None of the dispatches, which have since arrived, have at all altered our opinion on those principles of justice to the Nabob, and of security to the essential Interests of the Company, which we adopted as the foundation of those orders But Governor Campbell being now on the spot, and it being his intention to sail for Madrass early in the month of June, we wish to avail ourselves of the opportunity of discussing with him at large every circumstance relative to the present & future state of the Carnatic

2 If, in consequence of the orders already sent out to you, the assignment of the Revenues shall have been actually surrendered to the Nabob, you are not to revoke such surrender, but to suffer him to continue in the administration of his Revenues so surrendered, subject to such arrangements as may already have been formed, or such as shall be entered into in the

*Per Dutton.

Treaty to be negotiated for that purpose with the Nabob by Governor Campbell

3 You are to understand that the suspension of measures herein directed relates entirely to the plan laid down for the future arrangements but must in no wise be construed to extend to lessen or suspend the current payments necessary for preventing the Establishments from getting more into arrear

4 We enclose two Letters for the Nabob one of which you are to deliver to him in the event of the Revenues having been surrendered the other in the contrary case

London
12th April 1785
[Per Deptford]

We are
Your loving Friends
(Signed) N Smith/W Devaynes/L Sullivan

Enclosure 1

(Secret)

To His Highness the Nabob Wala Jah, Amir ul Hind Omdat ul Mulk Seraj ul Dowlah Anwar ul Deen Cawn Behader Munsoor Jung Sippah Salar Subahdar of Arcot and the Carnatic.

1 Having appointed Governor Campbell to succeed to Lord Macartney in the administration of our affairs in the Carnatic we think it proper to take the earliest opportunity of apprizing your Highness of this appointment, which we doubt not from our knowledge of the abilities and character of the Person on whom we have conferred this important trust will prove highly satisfactory to your Highness and advantageous to the general Interests of the Carnatic.

2 It is our Intention that Governor Campbell shall proceed to India without delay and we have thought it proper to suspend till his arrival the different arrangements necessary to be entered into between your Highness and the Company through our Servants at Fort St George on the happy event of the Restoration of Peace

3 Governor Campbell will be fully instructed on this important subject and will be directed to shew all attention and respect to your Highness in every circumstance in the execution of his duty

4 The orders which we have given to our Government of Fort St George for restoring to your Highness the administration of your Revenues must have afforded the greatest satisfaction to the mind of your Highness as a decisive mark of our attention and regard to your Rights not withstanding the many & pressing difficulties in which we are involved

5 We doubt not that this event must have confirmed & strengthened those sentiments of attachment to the Company which you have so often manifested And that your Highness impressed with these considerations,

and with a just regard to the safety and defence of the Carnatic, will cheerfully concur in the justice of those principles, on which it is our wish that our mutual connection should be established for the future. We repose therefore the fullest confidence in your Highness, that you will adhere to all Agreements, which may have been formed between you & our Government of Fort St. George on the Restoration of your Revenues, and that on the arrival of Governor Campbell he will find every disposition in your Highness to enter into such arrangements as are pointed out in our last Letter to your Highness, as being just & equitable in themselves, and essential to the future safety and prosperity of the Carnatic.

London,
12th April 1785

We have the honor to be,
With the greatest respect & esteem,
Your Highness's most obedient and
most humble servants,
(Signed) N. Smith/W. Devaynes/L. Sullivan.

Enclosure II

(Secret)

To His Highness the Nabob Wala Jah, Amir ul Hind, Omdat ul Mulk, Serajee ul Dowlah, Anwari ul Deen Cawn Behadre, Munsoor Jung, Sippah Salar, Subadar of Arcot and the Carnatic

1 Having appointed Governor Campbell to succeed Lord Macartney in the administration of our affairs in the Carnatic, we think it proper to take the earliest opportunity of apprising your Highness of this appointment which we doubt not from our knowledge of the abilities and character of the person on whom we have conferred this important trust, will prove highly satisfactory to your Highness, and advantageous to the general interests of the Carnatic.

2 It is our intention, that Governor Campbell shall proceed to India without delay, and we have thought it proper to suspend 'till his arrival the different arrangements necessary to be entered into between your Highness and the Company thro' our Servants at Fort St. George on the happy event of the restoration of Peace

Governor Campbell he will find every disposition in your Highness to enter into such arrangements as were pointed out in our last Letter to your Highness, and the principles of which we hold to be just and equitable in themselves as well as essential to the future safety and prosperity of the Carnatic.

London
12th April 1785

We have the honor to be
With the greatest respect & esteem
Your Highness's most obedient and
most humble servants,
(Signed) N Smith/W Devaynes/L Sullivan

20

LETTER DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 1785

The Guntur Sarkar and the Nizam—Company's policy

TO the Governor General and Council in Bengal and to the President and Council of Fort St. George

1 We have taken into our consideration the several proceedings which appear on the records of our Government of Bengal respecting the Guntur Circar & also the Propositions which have been made of ceding the whole of the Circars to the Nizam on the conditions there referred to

2 To this important subject we have given all the attention which is due to it on so many accounts connected as it is with every part of our political situation in India and materially affecting the future prospects of the Company's Finance

3 As a mere object of Revenue looking only to what the Circars have hitherto produced to the Company and considering the expense which may be incurred in time of war by the defence of so extensive a frontier there appears little reason to doubt that such pecuniary compensation from them might be stipulated for with the Nizam as would be fully adequate to their value in that light only. But even in this consideration we do not think ourselves too sanguine in forming expectations of future resources from the Circars, much exceeding what we have hitherto derived from them. Besides this from the situation of the Nizam as represented to us in your last dispatches we see little ground to believe it possible that he can make so large a payment to us at present even if our exacting it under those circumstances were not a measure of very doubtful policy, and the expectation of receiving it from him, by future & gradual payments, uncertain and hazardous at the best.

4. But when we consider the Circars in a political view, their importance seems to us much to exceed what arises from their proportion of actual Revenue.

5 The utility of forming a chain of connection between our Bengal Provinces and the Carnatic, has always been acknowledged And altho' the intervention of the Berar Possessions on the Coast, renders this chain incomplete, yet the events of the late war have shewn the advantage which we derive from the possession of the Circars The march of our Troops from Bengal to the Carnatic depends by this means on the acquiescence of the Berar Rajah alone, instead of being liable to be obstructed also by the person in possession of the Circars, if jealousy or resentment should at any time render him adverse to us Nor would it be necessary for such a purpose that open hostility should be employed Other means more covert, but equally effectual, would be abundantly in the power of any one, to whom those Provinces should belong

6 But if such a consequence is to be feared from the mere effect of Indian Policy, the ground of apprehension is considerably strengthened, when we consider it with a view to those European Powers, who may be hostile to our Interests in India Independently of the arguments which might be derived from the personal character of the Nizam, and from the part he took in the formation of the late confederacy against us it may be assumed, that no reliance could be placed on any connection to be established between us, except so long as interest should compel his observance of it If therefore after his regaining possession of these Circars, the French could hold out to him any object of ambition, or advantage, such as the withholding from us the sums to be paid if they should be stipulated to be made, in gradual payments for any considerable length of time, or the exacting from us the arrears, for the remission of which we should now stipulate, or the encrease of his dominions by conquests in the northern Districts of the Carnatic, there is too much reason to believe that his possession of the Circars, might lead to the introduction of that Nation, as a check on our power, or as a means of seconding his views against us in the Carnatic

7 And it is in this view, that the importance of the Guntoor Circar particularly appears, from the situation of Mootapilly so convenient for the introduction of the Troops and Stores of an European Enemy acting in the Carnatic, and from it's adjacency both to our Territories & to the newly acquired Dominions of Tippoo Sultan, the same argument however applies with considerable, tho' not with equal force to all the other Circars

8 If the French should gain a footing there, against which no Treaty with the Nizam is a sufficient security, the consequence might in the event of another war with that Nation, be highly detrimental to our Interests in the Carnatic, even if their Establishment should not lead, as there is too much reason to believe it might, to connections with the other Country Powers

9. Their present situation of apparent weakness in India, must,

and we know it actually has deterred the Natives from entering into engagements with them knowing as they do that their being fulfilled by the French must depend on the more or less favorable reception of such arrangements in Europe and on the uncertain arrival of Fleets liable to be intercepted by us whilst our strength forms an actual and consolidated mass of power already established in India and ready to act in any emergency

10 There is little probability from the jealousy and power of Tippoo and the Maratta States that the French will ever be suffered to form such an Establishment in their Dominions as would place them in a different situation in this respect. The weakness of the Nizam liable to attacks from those Powers and in immediate danger from one of them would naturally lead him in the event of our declining to engage in a fresh war for his defence to look for assistance from the French and perhaps to purchase it on such terms as are above stated. The consequence might be the acquisition to that Nation of a Power and Influence in the Territories of the Nizam similar to that which has been acquired by us in the Carnatic or even of the same nature as our possession of the Bengal Provinces. It is therefore incumbent upon us to guard by every possible precaution against this opening for their acquiring Possessions in Indostan.

11 Considering therefore our Territories in India as one great Empire every part of which is to be estimated by the relative importance which it bears to the whole the Circars appear us to form a barrier of no inconsiderable moment to us against the designs of other powers.

12 We feel & acknowledge the circumstances of temporary distress which first brought forward and have since been used to justify this proposal but looking with confidence to a very different situation from the zeal and activity of our Servants abroad cooperating with and supported to the utmost by those to whom the administration of the Company's Affairs is entrusted at home we cannot consent to so considerable an alienation of Territories which we think valuable in themselves highly important to our general Interests in India, and not exceeding our power of defence

13. It remains only to give you such directions as appear to us proper with respect to the mode of pursuing that line of conduct which we have pointed out to you above

14. We are aware that our orders in this respect will not be agreeable to the Nizam, especially considering the hope he may have formed from what has passed that he might recover the possession of those Provinces. It must therefore be your business to terminate the negotiation with all possible attention to him. As the whole groundwork of our claim rests on the Treaties subsisting with the Nizam we must be prepared to fulfill our engagements to him under the same Treaties. In this view it is essential that at the same time you demand the possession of the Guntour Circar you should be prepared to pay up to the Nizam the arrears of Peshcush justly due to him and also to assure him of our

determination to pay the current tribute regularly, and as it shall become due

15. The sum necessary for payment of the arrears must, of course, be provided by the Government of Bengal, & we trust that the measures we have taken on the subject of the charges on our Governments in India, will leave them little difficulty in putting themselves soon in a situation to make this demand, and to accompany it with an offer of immediate payment of the arrears. The annual Peshcush must be paid from the Revenues of the Circars themselves, under the administration of our Government of Fort St. George

16 In settling the amount of the Nizam's claim for arrears, a suitable deduction must be made for what he has received from the Guntoor Circar since the death of Bazalet Jung. But in adjusting this account, we direct you to use the utmost firmness and moderation, for as the whole transaction must be displeasing to the Nizam, it would be improper to render it more so by insisting on demands irksome to him, & unimportant to ourselves and in this view we think it necessary to observe upon a Paper transmitted to us by Lord Macartney, being No. 4 of the Estimates enclosed in his Letter of the 14th October 1784.

17. In this Paper the debt due to the Nizam is stated at A.Rs. 36, 49, 333 From which sum two deductions are made, The first is for the Revenue of the Guntoor Circar, on the principle above stated, & amounts to A.Rs 21,00,000 The second is for a due due by Bazalet Jung & amounts to Pags 63, 438.

18 On the first of these we can only remark, that every endeavour should be used to learn with certainty the amount actually received by the Nizam from the Guntoor, as it has been recently asserted that 12,00,000 Rs per annum, is an average much too high With regard to the second article we by no means agree in the justice of charging this arrear to the Nizam, and therefore direct that no deduction be claimed on that account

19 Having thus stated to you our sentiments on several points of the highest importance to the administration of the Company's affairs, which from the delicacy of the subjects we have thought proper to convey to you in secret dispatches we direct you, on your part to use the utmost caution that they may not fall into the hands of any Persons who might be disposed to make an improper use of them, but that the knowledge of our orders be confined solely to those to whom their execution is committed In pursuance of the same caution, and in obedience to the late Act of Parliament, you are to address your dispatches on these subjects, and on the different matters connected with them, to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors

London,
22nd September 1785
[Per Ganges]

We are,
Your affectionate Friends,
W Devaynes/Nath Smith.

LETTER DATED 14 MARCH 1786

Shah Alam's demand for arrears of tribute—policy towards country powers outlined

To the Governor General and Council nt Bengal

1 By your Overland Advices in the Secret Department of the 29th April and 16th May last we were acquainted with the extraordinary demand made by Shah Allum supported by Madajee Sindia¹ for payment of the arrears of Tribute and with the subsequent disavowal by both Parties of any knowledge or intention of making such demand

2 The manner in which you determined to reply to this demand has met with our entire approbation nor can we sufficiently applaud the judicious and spirited conduct of Lientenant Anderson² by whose means this matter came to so favorable termination

3 Whatever were the motives by which Sindia was actuated in urging the King to make the late demand we are not sorry at his having so done, as the issue of the experiment has not only convinced him of our determination to maintain the honor of the British Name in India but has likewise shown him the sense which the neighbouring Chiefs entertain of his ambitious designs by their offering if necessary, to unite with us against him. And whatever success Sindia may have met with against the Forts near to the Frontiers of our Ally the Nubob Vizier we are nevertheless persuaded that the respectable Force situated within those Dominions to watch the motions of Sindia, and which will of course be diminished so soon as circumstances will admit of it agreeably to the sentiments expressed in the Letter from the Court of Directors of the [] will be fully adequate to their protection upon the event which we deem improbable of any hostilities against them on the part of Sindia

4 With respect to the rupture between the Marattas and Tippoo Sultan your Advices in the Secret Department of the 23d July last have convinced us that you clearly understand the line of policy which ought to guide your Councils upon that and every occasion of disturbance between the Country Powers and we have the utmost confidence in you that in all cases a pacific and defensive system will be invariably adhered to not only on account of the wisdom of the policy itself but because the same is strictly enjoined by the late Act of Parliament³

London
14th March 1786.

We are
Your affectionate Friends,
W. Dowrynes/ Nath. Smith

LETTER DATED 21 JULY 1786

Anglo-French trade relations in Bengal.

To the Governor General and Council in Bengal.

1. The very important discussions which have arisen between you and the French on the subject of carrying into execution the 13th Article of the late Definitive Treaty of Peace, as stated to us in your General Letters from the Foreign Department of the 31st July 1785, P Swallow, 25th October 1785 P Intelligence and 9th January 1786 P Rodney; from the Secret Department 9th January 1786 P Rodney, and your Letters to the Secret Committee of the 10th & 27th of January, have claimed our earliest attention.

2. When we observe the spirit of intemperance which seems to have actuated M Dangereux,¹ the agent of His Most Christian Majesty, in the course of this negotiation, in spite of the conciliatory disposition displayed by you in every instance, the demands made by him and M. Cossigny, the Governor of Pondicherry, to which it was impossible you should accede; and the total want of concert or uniformity which was apparent in the construction of the Treaty formed by the several different agents of the French Nation in India, we cannot but agree in opinion with you, that a longer continuance of the discussion in India afforded no prospect of an accommodation, and that a reference to the respective Court in Europe, was the only mode that could be adopted.

3. In this view we trust that the Deputation of Colonel Cathcart to the Island of Mauritius, to obtain a personal communication with the Visconte de Souillac, the French Governor General of India, may be attended with salutary effects, and shall most anxiously wait the result of his Commission.

4. However not deeming it proper, whilst possessed of such explicit information, to remain totally inactive until called upon by the remonstrances which might be expected from the Court of France, we lost no time in engaging the attention of His Majesty's confidential Servants to those transactions. In consequence of which it was judged expedient to remonstrate to the Court of Versailles, on the backwardness of their agents in India, to allow the operation of the 13th Article of the Definitive Treaty, according to any just or liberal interpretation of it, and to invite the Ministers of the Most Christian King to such an amicable conference as might tend to establish the principles mutually entertained by the contracting Parties at the time the Peace was made, and thus fix upon a permanent basis, the tranquility so happily subsisting between the two nations.

5 For your more particular information upon this subject, we transmit enclosed copy of the Letter written by the Marquis of Carmarthen to M. Hailes His Majesty's Charge d'affaires at Paris during the absence of the Duke of Dorset under date the 5th, and M. Hailes's answer of the 9th instant, written in consequence of his interview with M. de Vergennes^a

6 From the tenor of this answer we are led to hope that the disputes which have taken place in India, did not arise from any preconceived plan or instructions from Europe to create difficulties in the execution of the treaty as you judging from appearances in India had concluded. And the readiness professed by the French Minister to come to an explanation of the intentions of the Treaty upon terms not very dissimilar from the construction you have been inclined to allow would lead us to believe that your variations which have borne a serious aspect may yet be brought to an amicable adjustment

7 We shall pursue with earnestness this important object We are confident you will be equally zealous to promote it However without implicitly relying on the prospects now held out to us or waiting for further lights before we send definitive orders to our Servants in India, we think it right and necessary to communicate to you our sentiments upon certain parts of your dispatches, so far as may enable you to act whilst this expected negotiation is pending that you may not by concessions on your part weaken any ground it may be intended to maintain and may arrange your measures so as to meet the plans we may hereafter adopt either originally from ourselves or as the result of the agreement to be formed between the respective Courts.

8 The difference which arose between the English and French Commissioners concerning the House and Garden of Ghzyretty has been settled upon a very proper footing, and it will not be necessary for us to enter any farther into that subject till the private claim, which was asserted at the time of their restoration shall come to be agitated.

9 When the French included in their list of claims a new grant of land for a factory at Jugdea, in lieu of that which had been washed away by the river you ought not to have acceded to it under that specification. For although we might be inclined to grant or to procure from the Country Government any reasonable indulgence for such as carry no other views to Bengal than those of a commercial establishment and acquiesce in the general controuling power existing in the English Company as Dewan of the Provinces it is not to be considered as a duty incumbent upon us, and claimed as such that we are to replace the accidental losses of a rival power who may assume principles independent of our Government Besides if it was necessary at all to take the opinion of our Board of Trade upon this article it was right to have taken it before you had in any degree committed yourselves by an acquiescence

10 The distinction you established between public factories belonging to the French as national establishments and places resorted to by Individuals at any periods before the war was judicious and right. We

equally approve your prohibition against allowing new stations to be formed, or Frenchmen to be scattered over the interior districts of Bengal, and enter into your reasoning upon this subject

11. The requisition made by M. Champigny, chief of the factory at Dacca, that the French chiefs should be allowed to exercise jurisdiction upon their own lands, or the lands occupied by their dependents, was in itself preposterous, and subversive of every idea of regular government

12 If the French or any other Europeans exercise any jurisdiction, it must certainly be confined to the limits of their own Factories, which ought not to be entered by any officers of the country Courts It is not easy to draw a precise line, how far the agents of other European Nations, enjoying the rights of trade under acknowledged grants and treaties, may be employed in the districts or in the navigation of the rivers But they must, in all such cases, be subject to the authority of the Courts of Justice established by the Subahdar and Dewan of the Provinces

13 On the demand for a saluting Battery you do not seem to have decided, and will of course keep it under consideration until the final arrangement shall take place with the Court of France.

14 We now proceed to consider the two articles which have furnished most ground for contention, and considerably connected in their nature

1st The free, certain and independent trade, export and import, claimed by the French in every part of India, and in every article, salt and saltpetre included, absolutely free from duty, and

2d The free, certain and independent entrance of French ships and Boats in the Ganges, without being liable to be searched or visited

15. We are convinced with you, and had adopted that opinion even before the late occurrences came to confirm us in it, that an entire abolition of the Government Customs in Bengal is the best and perhaps the only complete remedy which can be applied against the various pretensions of the European Factories One principal motive of writing this secret Letter was to give you previous notice that this measure is in our contemplation, and that you will probably ere long be authorized by the general dispatches to carry it into effect

16 As we are anxious to keep back the declaration of our intentions for the present, in case any thing should occur in our arrangements with the other Nations of Europe which may prevent us from adopting this measure in its fullest extent, you will take no steps that may indicate such a design However you will in the mean time with the greatest caution be preparing for the adoption of such a plan, and you will endeavor to ascertain, with every possible degree of precision, the actual detriment it might produce to our Revenue, so that if the loss should be greater than we may chuse to admit, or to leave to the eventual compensation which we might hereafter derive from the extension of Commerce, and the benefits necessarily resulting from that extension, it may be at our option to indemnify ourselves by an immediate reparation of the amount upon the landed Revenue.

17 We mention this for consideration only not as a decided article, and we are sensible that the Revenue of Salt must at any rate be an exception.

18 It does not appear to us that under any fair construction of the 13th Article of the Treaty the French can be entitled to any freedom of trade beyond what is enjoyed by British subjects and by the subjects of other Nations possessing Factories in India. We do not conceive that the treaty was intended to confer upon them any one superiority or advantage beyond what they had enjoyed in former times, except this that individuals of the French Nation should hereafter carry on a safe and unmolested trade in the different parts of India subject to the British power or influence upon no worse terms and paying no higher duties than had formerly been acquiesced in and paid by the French East India Company incorporated by Charter from their own Sovereign and intitled to specific privileges under the grants of Indian Princes.

19 As to the trade in Salt it shall suffice to say for the present, that your arguments upon that subject coincide with our own Ideas. It has at all times been the policy of the Indian Government as well Native as British to lay this article of consumption under particular regulations. The French Dutch Danes and Portuguese have submitted to them in one and the other period. Every consideration of interest and policy calls upon us to maintain to the utmost the privileges which justly belong to our situation and as we have not yet consented so we trust we cannot be compelled by any ambiguous expression in the Treaty strained by a construction that would involve an absurdity, to give any other Nation a right which we deny to our own Subjects.

20 If the Convention formed with M. Dangereux for a limited quantity of Salt to be imported annually by the French into Bengal would have subjected us only to the loss estimated by M Vansittart the Comptroller General of Salt without producing any other material prejudice to our interest we should have been inclined to accede to it, provided it had been acquiesced in by the superior French administration in India and had been accepted as the means of closing all other difficulties. But as the French themselves have cancelled that arrangement we mean now to treat with them upon the footing of retaining the monopoly to its fullest extent. You will therefore stand upon that ground and regulate your proceedings upon this principle until you can receive further instructions from us. The Agreement on the subject of Saltpetre falls under the same predicament.

21 In the discussion of this subject with the French Nation, it is material for us to be accurately informed of the history of the Salt Trade both inland and foreign at every period as well whilst the Provinces were under the government of the native Princes as since the accession of the Howanny to the English Company. We shall endeavor to fortify our right upon this article as much as we can by arguments drawn from the materials in our possession. But you will see likewise the necessity

that you should turn your immediate attention to an investigation of the subject, and report to us speedily, and from time to time, the result of your enquiries, so as to furnish us with every information that can enable us successfully to maintain our claim to a monopoly in the full extent now enjoyed by us

22 In perusing your records on the subjects agitated between our administration and the French in the year 1773, we are much struck with a Letter from the Collector of Government Customs at Dacca, dated June 14th 1773, which asserts that "prior to the Revolution in Serajee ul Dowlah's time, the French and Dutch paid an annual stipend to the Subedar of that Province for the privilege of trading duty free in every inland article except Salt, Beetlenut and Tobacco" And we regret that in the enquiry which was afterwards made upon the occasion of this Letter, the whole stress was laid upon the payment or non-payment of a Peshcush or Tribute, without regarding that part which in the present moment would be of most importance, whether the French and Dutch were in any shape, and how far, restrained from trading in Salt, Beetlenut and Tobacco on the terms granted by their Firmaun for other Merchandize. If the fact be as the Collector states it, we should be warranted in presuming, either that before the Subadarry of Meer Jaffeer, they were excluded altogether from the Trade in these three specific articles or that they traded in them, upon paying such duties as it might please the Government of that period to impose

23 It is not necessary to expatiate much on the subject of visiting ships and vessels as they come up the Ganges. This right must either be absolutely maintained or decidedly renounced, and this point not being involved in any official intricacy, will probably receive its decision here, between the respective Courts of England and France Notwithstanding our clear opinion of the existence of our right, and the expediency of enforcing the exercise of it, founded on the principles and reasons we now communicate to you, it is our wish that in the course of the discussion between our Court and that of Versailles no impediment to an amicable and satisfactory conclusion on that point may arise by any incidental circumstances attending the exercise of it In the interim we trust to your prudence to avoid any unnecessary and offensive exercise of this right, and that on the other hand you will carefully avoid any concession which may appear to weaken our right, or any connivance which may essentially affect the Revenue, by the contraband introduction of Salt.

24 When we consider the relative situations of France and Great Britain in Bengal, we, either in our own right, or in the right of the native Princes, possessed of the sovereignty of the Provinces, and the French on the other hand standing merely upon the footing of Persons holding commercial Factories, without the privilege of Troops or Fortifications in the Subah of Bengal, Bahar and Orissa, we must insist upon the right of visiting all Ships which may come to participate of the navigation of the Ganges within our Territories,

LETTER FROM COURT

25 The French are barred by the Treaty of 1763, in that respect
ered by the Treaty of 1783 from any pretensions to introduce an
force, either naval or military at their chief settlement of Chander
the fortifications of which place had been demolished by us.
herefore cannot consider it as derogating from their national dignity,
nit to a practice which can be no way prejudicial to them, and is of
importance to us

26 Upon this subject we direct your particular attention to a
written by our late Governor General M. Hastings, in the year 1776
his right became a matter of contention, and is by him very properly
ry ably discussed

27 When you had once exercised the right upon the Augusto Victor
e Esperance Corvette we think you ought not to have receded from
offering to replace the Vessel which was lost, or by relaxing from
drit of the former regulation. It would have been better to have
d the question of right to your superiors at home unfettered by
tions or concessions

28 We have not the smallest doubt that the measures you adopted
t critical situation were dictated by an anxious wish to fulfill the
ctions you had received from us, to exercise with every degree of
ation the superiority we possess in that Country But we cannot
atimating our doubts whether a facility in departing from, or surren
; any acknowledged customary or useful right, will prove in the event
ost likely means of ensuring peace

on
ly 1780
[Intelligence]

We are
Your loving Friends
Jno Michie/John Motteux/John
Manabip.

Enclosure I

of a Letter from the Marquis of Carmarthen to Mr Halls.

Whitehall 5th July 1780

1 As it is extremely desirable that the dispute which happened in
should be taken up by those who in point of propriety, are best
led to complain I dispatch a Messenger for the purpose of communi
g His Majesty's pleasure in the most expeditious manner and I flatter
lf that you will be enabled to open the business to the French Ministry
o any representation on their part can be made to us.

2. You will therefore Sir inform Mons. de Vergennes that infor-
on being received of doubts having arisen between certain Persons
ctively employed by the two Powers in India respecting the true

construction of the 13th Article of the late Definitive Treaty, in consequence of which doubts the French had refused to comply with the usual mode of proceeding within the District of the British Settlements in that quarter. His Majesty fully persuaded of the Most Christian King's candour and justice, as well as actuated by the strongest principles of good faith and friendship, which he trusts are reciprocal on the part of His Most Christian Majesty, has commanded me to instruct you, Sir, to mention (generally only for the present) this circumstance to the Comte de Vergennes, in order that proper enquiries may be made into the conduct of the French Officers or Agents who may have been concerned in any such dispute

3 The King will be ever desirous of entering into any explanations which may be necessary for ascertaining such points as may be thought liable to any difficulty or misconstruction, as it is His Majesty's full determination to abide by the stipulation in favor of the French Trade, contained in the spirit as well as letter of the said Article of the Treaty His Majesty is no less persuaded that the Most Christian King will never afford His countenance or support to any Person who shall presume to act in contradiction to a stipulation formally agreed to by the two Sovereigns, and in the faithful observance of which the Interests of their respective subjects are so materially concerned.

I am etc,

(Signed) Carmarthen.

Enclosure II

Copy of a Letter from M Hailes to the Marquis of Carmarthen

Paris, 9th July 1786

My Lord,

1 Slater the Messenger arrived with your Lordship's Dispatch No 2, and I have this Morning seen the Minister on the subject of it.

2 I was greatly surprized to find Mons de Vergennes entirely ignorant of the event that had happened in India, and the more so, as M de Rayneval, who was present at our interview had heard of it, and even knew the name of the Ship (Le Bengal) which had brought the news of it to L'Orient

3. M De Vergennes has promised me to apply to the Marshal de Castries in order to learn from him if he has received any account of this affair in the mean time he has desired me to beg your Lordship will have the goodness to transmit to France such detail as Government may have received of it in England, for the purpose of comparing the two accounts together Mons Vergennes assures me that he has no doubt but that the King his Master will readily comply with His Majesty's requisition for an enquiry to be made into the conduct of those who may have been concerned on the part of the French in the Dispute, and in answer to

the assurances which I gave him of His Majesty's firm intentions of adhering not only to the letter but the spirit of the 13th Art of the Definitive Treaty in regard to the freedom of the French Trade in India he said that he did not apprehend that any little mercantile disagreement, arising from the avidity natural to that class of people was at all likely to lessen the good understanding now subsisting between the two Nations and the more especially as the 13th Article which stipulates that the French shall enjoy the liberty of Trade on the Coast in our possessions in the same manner and extent as it was formerly enjoyed by their East India Company is extremely clear and liable to no misinterpretations.

I have the honor to be etc.
De Hailes

23

LETTER DATED 21 JULY 1786

Approval of Macpherson's plan to liquidate military arrears—policy towards Madras Arcot and Tanjore endorsed—approval of Malet's appointment to Poona—Company's attitude towards country powers—answers to certain queries regarding Timur Shah Abdali Shahwada and the Nizam

TO the Governor General and Council in Bengal

1 We have read with particular attention your General Letter of the 9th January last P Rodne, from the Secret Department and proceed without delay to transmit you our Instructions upon such points as you have there referred to us giving specific answers where existing circumstances enable us to form a regular decision and laying down general Principles in such cases as are merely speculative For if any presupposed incident should take place in the political concerns of India it will probably bring combinations with it which cannot now be foreseen and which might unavoidably alter the arrangement intended under a different System and founded upon an antecedent state of the general politics of the Indian Powers

2 Having attentively perused the Plan proposed by Sir John Macpherson and adopted by you for the liquidation of the Military Arrears at our several Presidencies We highly approve the same and are persuaded it will be productive of the happiest effects Indeed we have been advised from Fort St George that the seasonable relief you afforded to that Presidency by the Francis and Admiral Hughes in order to enable that Government to carry the Plan into execution has already been followed by the most salutary consequences.

3 We entirely approve of your conduct in not deputing Paymasters to Fort St George and Bombay without the acquiescence of the Governor

and Council of those Presidencies, as We hold it to be of essential importance, to preserve the authority of our Servants within the bounds of their respective Governments.

4 The exertions you made to assist the Presidency of Fort St George under the great embarrassments they had represented to you, and to check the spirit of mutiny and dissatisfaction by an instant supply of Cash and on assurance that all the resources in your power were pledged for the full payment of the arrears justly due to the Troops, certainly merit our applause For although We look forward with the greatest solicitude to the period, when our Settlements on the Coast of Coromandel will be able to support themselves upon their own natural resources, and cease to drain Bengal of its wealth, yet it must always be kept in view by our superior Government, that the Territories we possess upon the Coasts of Coromandel and Decan, are in various points of view infinitely important to the national Interest, and that no prudent means ought to be neglected which can tend to establish the confidence of our Troops, Dependents, or Allies, and to render those possessions secure against any Native or European Enemy, who might take advantage of some temporary distress in our Affairs, to attack them with a better prospect of success.

5 The decisive Measures¹ you adopted with regard to Nabob of Arcot and the Rajah of Tanjore and inculcated in your correspondence with them are consistent with the Principle we are now enforcing In the confederated power of the Carnatic, the Company's Government must always take the chief lead and direction And although we mean that the Nabob of Arcot should ever be treated with respect and attention, we cannot avoid remarking that Sir John Macpherson's Letter to him of the 25th November 1785, rather too strongly invites him to a separate Correspondence with the Government of Bengal, whereas for the credit of the administration at Fort St George which the Nabob has upon former occasions been inclined to slight, and for the future prevention of intrigue, it is more eligible that his Correspondence should pass through that channel

6 The consideration you have given to the circumstances of our Officers who had survived their melancholy imprisonment with Tippoo Saheb, was highly proper, and the resolution you passed to pay them the full arrears of Batta accruing during their confinement, was such as humanity & justice dictated

7 We approve of your having appointed Mr Malet to be Resident at the Court of Poonah, as well as the Instructions you gave him for his conduct in that office, & the measures you took to avoid giving offence to Madagee Sindiah We expect from Mr Malet's industry to be perfectly informed upon the several important objects to which you have directed his enquiries

8 An answer to the communications contained in your Letter from the 25th to the 36th Paragraphs inclusive, and to the Questions specially proposed, leads us to take an enlarged view of the general Politics of India,

as connected with or to be necessarily influenced by our own situation and that of other Nations in Europe. The latter is a fixed object which admits of small variation in a long series of years. The former is more variable from many Causes such as the dissolution of general empire in India the want of systematic Conduct and regard to public faith in the Princes of India and the nature of Treaties generally formed amongst them upon the spur of the occasion for no prescribed term of years, nor declared to extend beyond the life of the contracting parties.

9 Circumstances of nature here alluded to must frequently alter the bearings and positions of the several Powers to one another and require our Government in some degree to steer a different course. But one universal Principle never to be departed from either in the present condition of the Native Powers or in any future Revolutions amongst them, is, that we are completely satisfied with the Possessions we already have and will engage in no War for the purpose of farther acquisitions. But in this general instruction We do not mean to depart from the Principle we have always had in view to unite our Indian Possessions by an acquisition of Cuttack if any favourable moment should arise for obtaining it by Negotiation.

10 The next leading Principle which must occupy your attention is to keep a constant watch upon the conduct of all European Rivals particularly the French. And as they cannot possibly interfere in the disputes of any of the native princes without ultimately intending prejudice to us, it seems to follow as a just conclusion and not to be much concealed in our communication with Indian Princes that if any of them shall accept of European Aid We shall feel ourselves warranted to throw the aid of our force into the opposite scale. It ought to be inculcated in every transaction with them, that the acceptance of any such aid can only be with the risk of having our whole Force immediately employed to crush the effects of it.

11 It should be generally known and understood that Peace is our primary object that We wish to pursue the interchanges of Trade beneficial to them and to us with every Country in India & to render those parts of India which are within our immediate administration completely happy under the protection of the British Power that we shall refrain from all interference in the contentions which may arise amongst the native Princes unless called for by the Stipulations of any existing Treaty but that we shall not take advantage of their Jealousies of one another in order to aggrandize the British Power by the depression of any one of them.

12. On the other hand whilst we are contented to pursue this peaceful and neutral System in our own particular We shall be strictly jealous of every interference from any other European Nation whatever which may either disturb the Peace of India or introduce their own Arms or influence to any distraction amongst the Princes or Inhabitants.

13. We have the satisfaction to observe in adverting to the several

Treaties by which we are connected with the Chief Powers in India, the obligations of them are entirely consonant with the general principles we have prescribed, and the Policy we have directed to be pursued in the Government of our Indian Possessions

14 Having stated these general Principles We answer to the 1st Question

1st If France not only unites "by Treaty, but sends actual Force to the aid either of the Marattas or Tippoo, ought we to assist the opposite Party?"

If any Indian Power takes the aid of France, we ought to give the most effectual aid to the opposite Party, upon the System established by the Peace of Salbey, we ought to consider Sindia as our particular Ally, and it does not at present occur to us, that almost any System of Politicks can soon take place in India, which with the aid of Sindia we may not be able to counteract, if in it's tendency prejudicial to us

15. To the 2d Question

"2d How far ought we to interfere in the event of Tippoo's success against the Marattahs, or theirs against him, to preserve a balance between the two Powers?"

If the French do not interfere with one of the Powers here mentioned, We can have no business to take any part

16 To the 3d Question

"3d Should we endeavour at the risk of a rupture with Sindia, to unite with the Courts of Poonah or Berar to break an Union, which under the Mogul Sanction may become too formidable."

We do not apprehend any Interest which Sindia can have, as a separate Power from the rest of the Poonah Government, to disregard our Alliance, which at all times must be of importance to him, and particularly so, if standing upon a separate ground from that of the Courts of Poonah and Berar, and therefore we cannot at present figure to ourselves any foundation for speculating, upon so improbable a contingency, as this Question supposes If contrary to probability, Sindia, instead of our Ally, should become our Enemy, either Secret or Open, You can be under no difficulty how to act Upon the general drift of this Question, we must again advert to what we have uniformly directed that our Governments shall not intermeddle with, or make themselves parties in the intrigues of Indian Powers

17 To the 4th Question

"4th How far should the Shah Zadah be supported in the Event of a Rupture with Sindiah, who could of course act under the supposed Authority of the Mogul, now in his hands In other words, might not the Shah Zadah in such case be declared by us, the only legal Representative of his Father "

It might once have been matter of serious consideration, how far it would have been for the interest of Great Britain to have raised the Mogul power to a greater degree of Splendour and Importance, But circumstanced

as we now are with regard to Sindia it does not occur to us that there is any reasonable ground to look for any such contingency as to induce us to enter into so hazardous an enterprise as the reestablishment of the Mogul Power. If any unforeseen Occurrences should take place, the Government upon the spot at the time must act as their Wisdom shall suggest for the preservation of our own Territories. But the security of our possessions must be their only object and not ideas of Splendor Aggrandizement or Ambition.

Your third and fourth Questions suppose a Power dangerous to us to be raised by the Mogul Shah Aulum and Madajee Scindia united and a rupture with us to take place which we trust is distant from all probability. As yet there have been no important and conspicuous movements which seemed to indicate ambitious schemes or to explain the original principles of that union and when we consider that the connection itself was formed contrary both to the religious bias and popular prejudices of India we conceive it far from impossible that it may be shaken by mutual disappointment or that it may be of no very long duration.

18 To the 5th Question

5th In the event of a convulsion in Tippoo's Government, should we permit the Marattas to establish their power completely over his Dominions in the Neighbourhood of the Carnatic?

We are inclined to believe that a proper use of our connection with Scindia may relieve us from any Apprehensions from the ruling Government of Poonah considering the Jealousies known to exist amongst the several branches of the Marattah power. For it is only by a supposed Union of that Power that it can become formidable to us. Our answer to the 2d Question applies equally to the 5th.

19 To the 6th Question

6th In the event of Tippoo's getting possession of the Guntoor Circar and pressing Nizam Ally too hard should we or should we not give the latter effectual and immediate aid?

We must consider the Circars as our own Territories as they truly are, and not permit any successful invasion of the Guntoor Circar or any other part of them.

20 To the 7th Question

7th "Should Timur Shah Abdally march into Hindostan? as is generally believed to be his present intention founded on an invitation from Shah Aulum who is impatient of his restraints under Madajee Sindia and distrustful of receiving any support from the Company what line should we take in the contests that will ensue between the Hindoo and Mogul Powers or are we to take any?"

Nothing is stated to us to convey a probability of the march of Timur Shah Abdally into Hindostan with any views likely to affect our interest and it would require a knowledge not only of the views with which he might come but of the power by which he is to be supported to enable us to give any definite instructions upon such an event. The

mere circumstance of an invitation from Shah Aulum, if true, would certainly not justify us in forming any speculation for offensive measures to be pursued on our part

21. Before we close this discussion we must advert to the 28th Paragraph of our Letter dated the 21st September 1785, in which we intimate our wishes, that the Shahzadah might not be induced to withdraw himself from our protection, and take this opportunity of enforcing those instructions, as it is our desire to employ every means, which may not lead to a very burthensome expence, to cultivate a good understanding with the Shahzadah, and to induce him to remain under our protection. An intimate and confidential attachment with the Heir Apparent of the Mogul Empire, although reduced in Power, yet respected in Name, may in many contingencies be serviceable to us, as the reverse may be highly detrimental

22 But as to your idea of declaring him the only legal representative of the Mogul Empire, it is impossible for us to prescribe upon mere hypothesis, what as, matter of self preservation, you may in any given case, be driven to the necessity of doing. But without indulging ourselves in distant speculations, we have no hesitation in giving our Opinion, that although you are ever to treat the Shahzadah with every attention and respect, you are to be cautious not to use him as an Instrument of intrigue, or pretext for interference in the internal Politics of India

23 We have already in the 24th and 25th Paragraphs of our General Letter of the 21st September 1785, signified our pleasure on the subject of the propositions of the Nizam, conveyed to you by Mr Richard Johnson, and in our Secret Letter of the 22d of the same month have decided on the importance of retaining the Guntoor Circar in our own hands. So that any further reply to the 37th, 38th and 39th Paragraphs of your Letter of the 9th January 1786 becomes unnecessary

24 The remainder of your Dispatch now before us from Paragraph 40th to the end, although containing Articles very proper to be communicated to us, do not seem to call for any observations or particular instructions on our part

East India House, London,
21st July 1786
[Per Intelligence]

We are,
Your Affectionate Friends,
Jno Michie/John Motteux/John Manship

LETTER DATED 21 JULY 1786

Advise Strengthening of troops at Bombay against Tipu—settlement of the island of Diego Garcia—Bombay Government's sentiment on Macpherson's plan to liquidate military arrears—measures taken by the Bombay Government for the occupation and settlement of Diego Garcia—Bombay Government's report on the disposition of country powers and Tipu's suspected

alliance with the Prince of Chirakkal—Bombay Government's instructions to Messrs Price and Smith for the occupation of Diego Garcia—report of John Carnac Resident at Goa—pecuniary affairs of the Nawab of Carnatic

To the Governor General and Council in Bengal.

We transmit to you a copy of a Letter we have just received by a dispatch overland from Mr Carnac, whom you appointed Resident at Goa also Copies of some Dispatches by the same conveyance from our Government at Bombay Being impressed formerly with an opinion that for the general security of our possessions in India it was material to have a very considerable portion of the military force on the Bombay Establishment stationed at Tellicherry as a check upon the movements of Tippoo Sultan we are confirmed in that opinion by the particulars stated in the Letters from Bombay which accompany this, but as your opinion founded upon your own observations upon the spot and aided by the information derived from our other Settlements, is entitled to and has our fullest confidence we forbear to dwell upon any opinions of our own and content ourselves with transmitting for your information the accompanying Papers.

London
21 July 1786
[Per Intelligence]

We are,
Your affectionate Friends
Jno Michie/John Motteux/John
Manship.

Enclosure I

To the President and Council of Fort St George.

I We have occasion by this Packet to send some secret Dispatches of a very confidential nature to our Government [sic] General at Bengal and we have thought proper to send Copies of those Dispatches for your information that you may be informed of our Ideas upon them, and thereby enabled more precisely to carry on your correspondence on those subjects with the Government at Bengal in so far as any of the points bear a reference to the situation of our affairs under your Administration

London
21 July 1786

We are
Your loving Friends
(Signed) John Michie/John Motteux/
John Manship

Enclosure II

To the President and Council of Bombay

I We have received your overland dispatch containing Letters in

the Secret and Political Department dated the 13th January and 18th of March last

2 We approve of the Instructions you have given to Messrs Price and Smith, relative to the Settlement of the Island of Diego Garcia¹, we likewise approve of your conduct relative to the claim made by the king of Cherrika.² But it is impossible for us, on the perusal of the account of those transactions not to be more strongly impressed with an opinion we had always entertained of a propriety of a large portion of our force upon your establishment being stationed at Tellicherry We do not however send you any orders upon the subject, as your own Judgement upon the spot, acting under the control and direction of the Government General of Bengal, will be more satisfactory to us than any opinions we can form at such a distance from the scene of operations

We are,
Your loving friends,

(Signed) John Michie/John Motteux/
John Manship

London,
21 July, 1786

Enclosure III

To the Hon'ble the Committee of Secrecy of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors at their House in Leadenhall Street

Honorable Gentlemen,

1. On the 9th instant by the Surprize Packet via Fort St George and Anjengo, we had the honor to receive your Commands of the 8th July last for taking possession of and settling the Island of Diego Garcia.

2 These Commands shall be carried into speedy effect, and by an early opportunity, we will have the honor to communicate to you the steps we take to carry your views into execution

We have the honor to be with the utmost respect,

Hon'ble Gentlemen,
Your most faithful obedient humble servants,
(Signed) R H Boddam/L Nilson/Robt
Sparkes

Bombay Castle,
13th January 1786

Enclosure IV

To the Hon'ble the Committee of Secrecy of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors at their House in Leadenhall Street

Honorable Gentlemen,

1st We had last the honor to address you under 29th November and 1st ultimo the duplicates of which were transmitted by the Morning

Star via Bussora and the triplicates accompany this by His Majesty's Ship Bristol Commodore Ch Hnghes

2nd. On the 31st ultimo we received from Bengal a plan proposed by the Hon ble the Governor General for liquidating the Military Arrears due all over India to the 1st Instant and adopted by the Snpreme Council accompanied by Directions to carry this plan into immediate effect, as far as it respected the troops on this Establishment.

3rd. We instantly complied with these Orders by establishing a Committee composed of our Military Paymaster and three others of your Senior Servants with very pointed Instructions by whose active exertions in preparing Arrear Rolls and other necessary Papers we flatter ourselves that by the time the expected Remittances for this service are realized matters will be in sufficient forwardness to begin paying off the Arrears due to the non Commissioned and privates of our Troops

4th With much Concern we observed it from the first advices on this subject to have been the Intentions of the controlling Power to have sent here a servant or servants to in Person superintend the Payment and Application of the Remittances abovementioned for various Reasons as stated in their Letter to us of the 14th November and allowing us an Option on taking upon us the Responsibility for the success of the Measure

5th We were Unanimously of Opinion If this measure was carried into actual execution it must unavoidably lessen this Government in the Eyes of our Military and the Public we did not hesitate a moment to take the whole Responsibility upon ourselves and at once to engage for the compleat success of the Business as directed by them It being not only our unalterable Resolution to appropriate the six Lacs expected to the Arrears due to our Soldlery but even farther considerable sums as they can be spared from our other indispensable necessities

6th By subsequent advices received the 8th Inst we have the pleasure to find that the Hon ble the Governor General and Council on reconsideration have suspended the measure and have given us the most satisfactory assurances that it did not originate in any distrust of this Government.

7th By further advices received at the same time under date 7th Ultio and in charge of Mr Malet himself we were advised that the controlling Power had come to a final determination to send that Gentleman as their Minister to Poona and he arrived here appointed and instructed accordingly but to wait here until a desire should be expressed in Letters from the Peshua [sic] and his Ministers that he should proceed to the Marhatta Durbar

8th The necessary Letters to the Peshua and his Ministers have been forwarded to Poona acquainting them of Mr Malet's arrival at Bombay and his waiting the Result

9th The Honorable the Governor General and Council have expressed themselves highly satisfied with the Drafts and Surveys exhibited

to them by Capt. Charles Reynolds who accompanied Mr. Malet across Indostan and recommended him being sent to Poona to be occasionally sent from thence to Nagpore or Hyderabad, that our knowledge of the interior parts of this Country may be increased by the future exertion of his useful Talents.

10th. We complied with Pleasure and Captain Reynolds will accordingly proceed to Poona with Mr. Malet.

11th. We have no information of moment to communicate either from Poona or from Scindia's Camp Scindia has been again joined by the King and taken Ally Ghur, by exchange for a Jaghire to the Kellidar, but it seems was much disappointed respecting the Treasures he expected to find in that Fortress.

12th. We know but little as to Tippoo Sultan's real motions, we learn from very late advices from the Coast that the embargo was not removed mentioned in the Chief and Factors at Tellicherry their Letter to your Honors P. Greyhound via Bussora, we have strong reasons also to believe, that the Nabob has raised Onore and many other of his smaller Forts.

13th The Venus French Frigate was at Mahi from the Gulph of Persia, another Frigate the Subtile is at Goa, as Ship of fifty Guns was expected there, but whether fitted for War or Commerce we have not learned

We have the honor to be with the Utmost Respect,

Bombay Castle,
Poll & Secret Department,
13th January 1786

Honorable Gentlemen,
Your most faithful obedient humble servants,
R H Boddam/L. Nilson/Robt.
Sparkes/Richd. Church

Enclosure V

To the Hon'ble the Committee of Secrecy of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors at their House in Leadenhall Street

Hon'ble Gentlemen,

1. On the 13th of January we had the honor of acknowledging receipt of your commands for settling the Island of Diego Garcia which we determined to carry into speedy effect

2 As a Storeship was indispensably necessary, and we could freight none large enough without incurring a very considerable expense, we waited some time for the arrival of your Ship the Admiral Hughes, on board of which we have since laden all the Stores and Provisions intended for the new Establishment, and this Vessel, under command of the Drake, accompanied by the Viper Cruizer, and a new Advice-Boa[t] left this the 15th instant, and will probably arrive at the place of their destination by the middle of next month

3 We have entrusted the chief management of this enterprize to two of your Senior Servants, Messrs Richard Thomas Benjamin Price and John Richmon[d] Smyth assisted by Captain Sartorius our eldest Captain of Engineers who is appointed Engineer, Surveyor and Commanding Officer of the Detachment and is not only an excellent Officer but a Man of good senso and sound judgement

4 The Hon ble the Governor General and Council have communicated to us their intended mission of Colonel Cathcart to the Mauritius. We think it necessary to transmit to your Honors a Copy of our secret Orders in case Diego Garcia should be found to be in actual authorized possession of any European Nation or the place be attacked after they had established themselves there and we flatter ourselves these Instructions will meet with your approbation.

We have the honor to be with the highest respect,

Hon'ble Gentlemen

Your most faithful and most obedt. Servants,

(Signed) R H Boddam/L. Nilson/Robt.

Sparkes/Richd. Church.

Bombay Castle
18th March 1780

Enclosure VI

To the Hon ble the Committee of Secrecy of the Hon ble the Court of Directors at their House in Leadenhall Street

Honorable Gentlemen

1st General Carnac on his arrival here having signified to us that he had Advice from the Hon ble the Governor General and Council to your Honors we have ordered the Intrepid to proceed to Bussora with them and embrace the Opportunity of noticing the few political Transactions which have taken place since the Departure from hence of his Majesty's Squadron.

2nd Mr Malet after receiving the most polite and cordial Invitations from the Peshwa and his Minister Nanah Furnese left this place for Poona on the 12th Ultimo with no other Instructions from us, than in general terms to assure the Peshwa that nothing should be wanting on our parts to continue and increase the friendship subsisting between our honorable Employers and the Mahratta State

3rd. Mr Malet advises us that on the 7th Instant when he had his first publick Audience of the Peshwa he met with a very honorable reception that the Armies of the Peshwa and Nizam Ally Khan were encamped near Adgher (about 100 Cos from Poona) and that the latter has had a meeting with Nanah Furnese since which a Large Detachment of the Mahratta forces had proceeded towards Tippoo Sultan's Country.

4th. By the latest Advices from your Resident with Madjee Scindia to our president under the 17th January, we learn that Madjee Scindia after having got Possession of Allyghur and the Jewels belonging to the Family of the late Afraisaib Cawn, marched to Decg, where he had then halted for some time on account of some jealous discontents among the Mogul Chiefs, which had like to have been attended with some very serious Consequences and still more strongly than ever inclines Mr Anderson to think, that Scindia will never reap any very solid Advantages from his Struggles in that Quarter

5th. The Nabob Tippoo Sultan still continues the same line of Conduct he has lately pursued and the Embargo continues at the Dispatch of the latest Advices from the Coast

6th. An intelligent Person we had sent to Onore to enquire into the real state of things there, after being detained fourteen days, returned to Bombay on the 9th Ultimo, and reported, that the Fort was entirely rased, and the ancient Inhabitants of the Town removed to Syrengapatnam and Mangulore, on which we resolved to postpone for this season reestablishing your Factory at Onore

7th About the 12th of January your Servants at Tellicherry were again alarmed by a secret Message from the Bibi of Cannanore¹ to some of our principal Merchants, desiring them to quit Tellicherry, and offering them an Azylum either in her own districts, or in those of the Nabob, to which however they paid not the least Attention. The Chief at the same time received from the Prince of Cherrika a demand for the restitution of the Province of Bhandeserratt⁵, saying he would pay off the Achamars Debt⁶

8th On the 24th of that Month we took under Consideration the various Dispatches we had then received on the Subject and the whole that had passed formerly respecting this Province since the Year 1740, more especially the last specific Agreement between your Chief and the Prince of Cherrika dated the 23d March 1763, when this Province was again assigned over to the Hon'ble Company as a Security for the Debts of the Prince, the Achamars, and the two Kings of Nelleseram⁷, then stated to amount to, about eighty nine thousand (89,000)

9th We were unanimously of Opinion that we had no right to detain this Province from the Prince of Cherrika longer than the Debts abovementioned were discharged, and instructed your Servants to immediately state the Accounts, and acquaint the Prince they had our orders to surrender the Province as soon as the balance was discharged which might Appear to be due from him on a fair adjustment

10th Having reason to suppose that the Prince would not wait for this Adjustment as well from the stile of his demand for Restitution, as from other concurring Circumstances we privately instructed the Chief not to Oppose by a Military any Attempt of the Prince to repossess himself of the Province but to withdraw the very few people we had stationed there publicly protest against the Prince, and address the Nabob Complaining

of this violence in one of his Allies under the Treaty of Mangalore

11th. As we had cause to suspect would be really the case so it happened on the 20th January the Prince took repossession of the Province without Opposition our people were withdrawn and the Chief Obedied our orders but has yet received no Reply from the Nabob we make little doubt but that the Prince of Cherrika will stop here and probably come to an amicable Adjustment of his Account with the Hon'ble Company, when we imagine from the Statements already sent us from Tellicherry no very large balance will appear to be justly due but such as may arise from Accumulated Interest.

12th We determined to pursue this Line of Conduct at this Critical period from an unwillingness to continue a dispute of itself but of little moment but which if pursued might involve future and important Consequences, and becomes a Sacrifice to that pacific system we think it our indispensable duty to preserve by every means in our power

13th. In Consequence of these several Alarms your servants at Tellicherry fearing for the safety of that Subordinate indented to us for a considerable Quantity of Warlike stores that they might be prepared against any Attempts from the neighbouring Princes.

[14th.] Notwithstanding the extraordinary Conduct of the Prince of Cherrika we do not think Tellicherry is in any danger of being Attacked because such an Attempt by him or by any of the Malabar Princes who are Vassals to the Nabob would be a violation of the treaty of Mangalore which in his present situation with the Mahrattas and the Nizam we conceive the Nabob would wish to avoid

15th. However that we might guard even against the Prospect of danger during the Rains and as the Season was drawing towards a close we determined to comply with the Indent and embrace the Opportunity of sending them down without incurring any additional expence by your Honors Ship the Northumberland

16th. We now Convey the Duplicate and Triplicate of our last Address under the 13th of January and have the Honor to be with the highest respect.

Honorable Gentlemen

Your faithful and Obedient Humble Servants

Bombay Castle,
18th March 1780

R.H Boddam/L. Nelson/Robt.
Sparks/Richd Church.

Enclosure VII

To Richard Thomas Benjamin Price Esquire and Mr John Richmond Smyth.

Gentlemen

1 From the most mature consideration of every circumstance at

present within our knowledge, we are under no manner of apprehension that you will find the Island of Diego Garcia in the actual possession of the French, or in the hands of any other European Nation whatever

2 However if beyond all expectation on your arrival you find the Island possessed by the French, and a regular Settlement made thereon by them, however small it may be, and who cannot be removed but by force, we direct that in this case you procure what refreshments you can, or are in want of, and return immediately with the Drake, Stoeship and Experiment to Bombay, after previously dispatching the Viper to the Cape of Good Hope with Advices in Duplicate to the Honorable the Secret Committee of your disappointment, and the causes thereof

3 It appears by Monsr. D'Apres's Draft itself that the English first discovered this Island in 1712 They have since visited it oftener than any other Nation, and in particular in 1774, Captain Sheriff was sent to survey Diego Garcia with a probable view to a future Settlement, and put on shore a Breed of Goats, Sheep and Hogs, the property of the Hon'ble Company.

4 You will not therefore deem any straggling French who may be accidentally there without authority as any Settlement of that Nation, or any Port or Pile, or such like trifling marks of possession left there with an evil design to debar other Nations profiting from it's situation to be any impediment in the way of your establishing yourselves, and obeying our Orders which you will carry into immediate effect

5. Being once settled, as we know of no right in any Nation in the world to disturb or molest our Establishment on the Island of Diego Garcia, you will repel all hostile attempts, and to the utmost of your power defend the possessions of your Hon'ble Employers, yielding but to a superior force you find yourselves unable longer to resist

6 Should any foreign Vessels touch at Diego Garcia you will treat them with civility and attention, and render them every assistance they may stand in need of, and it may be within your ability to grant to them without permitting them to come into the Harbour

7 The Secretary has our Orders to furnish you with a Copy of the Bengal Cipher No 10, that you may be enabled with safety to communicate any secret intelligence to us, to the other Presidencies, or to the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble the Court as time may admit or circumstances may require

Wishing you health and success, We remain,

Gentlemen,

Your loving Friends,

(Signed) R.H. Boddam etc. Council.

Bombay Castle,
7th March 1786,

Enclosure VIII

To the Hon ble the Committee of Secrecy

Gentlemen,

1 The Governor General has thought it material that a trusty Person should be placed in the situation the best adapted for acquiring Intelligence as being an object of peculiar importance at the present Crisis and especially for Obtaining the earliest intimation of the Operations of the Mysore Sovereign at this Period when He is engaged in War with the Mharatta State Doing me the Honor to regard me as qualified to fulfil his Wishes in this respect He has desired me to consider myself as still vested with the Commission of Minister at Goa on the part of the Bengal Government. Altho the Expences of that Office are abolished by the Orders of the Hon ble Court of Directors yet anxious as I have ever been to contribute my Labours to the public Utility & to the service of the Company I rejoiced at being thought worthy of a Trust of that nature, wholly regardless of what may be determined on, on the point of Emolument and in consequence I departed from Calcutta for the Western Side of India the beginning of the year

2 On my arrival at Madras a Report prevailed of Tippoo having been Slain which the Nabob assured me He believed and which was deemed sufficiently founded by the Gentlemen in the Administration of your Affairs there to be communicated home. I was suspicious of its authenticity as no precise mention was made either of time or place and no Account was had thereof from the Rajah of Travancore to whom it would have been so interesting an Event. The substance of the Report was, that there being an Insurrection of the Koorga Nairs * Tippoo had marched against them, that having ordered about four thousand of his own Coffroy Slaves to storm a Battery of the Enemy they were repulsed with great loss that they being commanded to renew the attack remonstrated against it as having suffered so much and desired another Party might be sent upon the Service whom they said they would support That Tippoo persisting upon their leading the Charge the Slaves were so exasperated that they faced about and discharged their Pieces at him, that he was struck with three Balls and presently after died It is surprising a Tale should be so circumstantially related which was almost intirely groundless no other part thereof being true but that Tippoo had been in the Koorga Districts. They lie to the North East of Tellicherry at the distance of from twenty to thirty Leagues. He had driven some of the Chiefs into their strong Holds upon the Gaults but He could not remain in the Country the length of time requisite to bring them into Subjection I have good Information of his having quitted that Territory early in January and of his having gone to Seringapatam There He would not continue long the Mharatta forces having advanced to the Khetna would render him impatient to put himself at the Head of his Troops and to move towards them. As the two contending

Armies may be expected soon to be parted only by that River it is probable one or other of them will in Confidence of Superiority resolve on passing it, which must bring on an Action.

3 I found the Factory at Tellicherry greatly alarmed with apprehensions of evil Designs from the Nabob Tippoo They impute to his instigation the Demands made by the Prince of Cherika of the Rhadaterrah District, and the Disturbance given them on that account This District contiguous to Tellicherry to the Northward, from which it is divided by a narrow Inlet of the Sea, has been long an object of Contention, yet it is not of Sufficient consequence or value to be worth the risk of being engaged in trouble about it, and it may be questioned whether We have a Right to hold it

It was mortgaged to us I believe more than forty Years ago for a Debt originally short of Twenty Thousand Rupees, and the Possession is maintained under the Plea of that Mortgage We having had the Collections for the most part of that time, except during Intervals of Hostility, our Receipts must have amply compensated for the Amount of the Debt with it's Interest I do not conceive there is any Cause at present to fear being molested by the Nabob He has too much upon his Hands to venture as yet to come to an open Rupture with the English Some late Orders from him indeed shew, that He is not very favourably disposed to us, however in these he is not partial, they equally effecting all the European Nations who have Settlements in his Ports He has prohibited the Exportation by them of the three staple Productions of this part of his Dominions, the Sandal Wood, Pepper and Cardamoms If the Prohibition be not withdrawn, the Factories on the Malabar Coast will not be worth holding One would judge he means to monopolize to himself the Trade in these Staple Articles, two or three of his Ships having been dispatched from Mangalore fully laden with them for the Gulphs, and he has established Factors & Warehouses at Muscat for the purpose of this Commerce.

4. It is surmized that some of our Gentlemen who were so unfortunate as to fall into his Hands, and have been thought to be Slain, are alive, confined in a Fortress not far distant from Seringapatam I shall Spare no pains to investigate the Truth of this Matter, but the Investigation must be made with the utmost Caution and Secrecy, for should it really be the Case, and he should learn that it has come to our Knowledge his having Secreted any of our People, in violation of the Treaty with us, to avoid having his Conduct in this respect brought to the Test, he would infallibly cut them off.

5 Mr Macpherson strongly recommended to me to endeavour to open a Correspondence with Tippoo, and as an Introduction thereunto gave me a Letter for him which I forwarded from Calcut, as the most certain & expeditious Communication with Seringapatam is from that Place I accompanied it with an Address from myself wherein I touched upon the Detriment our Factories sustained from the Restrictions he had laid on the most material Branches of Trade, & signified to him how pleasing

it would be to the Company to have the News that these Restrictions were taken off. He has replied immediately to these Letters, a degree of Attention he has never shown to this or the Madras Government. His Answer to me is written in Civil but general Terms, it not being customary with the Country Powers to enter into Particulars at the Commencement of a Correspondence. He declares it to be his Wish that the Treaty may be permanent, and that the Strictest Ties of Friendship may always subsist between his Sirkar and the Company's. So favourable a beginning will encourage me to try every Method to maintain a frequent Inter-course with him and I trust in the End it will be productive of Good.

6 I judged it advisable Gentlemen to come up to Bombay for a short time being desirous of consulting with this Presidency whether I could be of any immediate Use to them in particular and how I could most effectually promote the General Interest of the Company in the Station to which I am appointed.

7 Having a Packett for the Honorable the Committee of Secrecy from the Madras Presidency and one for your Secretary from Bengal which I was desired to have forwarded as early as possible over land was another motive for my coming hither in order to apply for a conveyance to Bussorah which Mr Boddam has been pleased to grant having finished my business here I shall return to Goa and perhaps proceed so low as to Tellcherry or even to Calicut as I find from the information I may receive will but answer the purpose of my Commission.

8 A strange relation has been brought by a Mr Dickson formerly of the Bombay Marine which he heard at the Maldivas. It seems to have had its rise from a Captain De la Butte who had been there in the Command of a French Vessel. It is said that a large ship which was declared to have been Copper bottomed and to have mounted Fifty Guns having appeared off those Islands the Natives made a Fire in the night in order to mislead the Ship that She was in Consequence wrecked and that such of the Crew as got ashore were massacred. It is also said that a Coat was in the Kings Possession described as an Admirals Uniform but mention is made of two ornaments being thereon which could not be on a Coat of Sir Hyde Parker Vizt. an Epaulette and a Star on the Breast.

9 In conformity in my Instructions from the Governor General I shall omit no occasions Gentlemen of transmitting to you whatever Intelligence reaches me that may be worthy of your Notice.

I have the Honor to be with all possible Consideration and respect,

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant,
John Carnac

Bombay
8th March 1760

Enclosure IX

To the Governor in Council at Fort St George.

1. The public Letter of this date will communicate to you generally the sentiments of the Court of Directors of the manner in which our orders of the 9th December 1784 for surrendering the assignment to the Nabob, have been carried into execution

2. You will have observed by our Letter of the 22d September last, that we had seen with much concern the repeated representations which we received from your Government on that subject in the course of the last year. The decline of Revenue and increase of expences under the Nabob's Government, and the probability of his failing in his engagements in future, are strongly stated in Lord Macartney's Minute of the 28th May last, and the subsequent proceedings of your Government, in consequence of our Orders of the 9th December 1784, and much alarm is expressed on the Subject, from the pecuniary Distresses in which our affairs on the Coast are involved

3 We are sensible of the weight due to those considerations, and of the difficulty of reconciling in this instance, the justice which we owe to the Nabob, and the system of conciliation which we wish to pursue towards all the Native Powers with whom we are connected, with the means of realizing resources, from which we must in part hope to be freed from the embarrassments under which the Company labour, in consequence of the extensive War in which we were engaged. At present we do not mean to give any further orders upon this subject, than what we have already done in our Letter of the 22d September last. We wait the result of what was there suggested, in the confidence that you will have so exercised the discretion therein given to you, as not to distress the Nabob with demands for the payment of his Creditors, beyond what he is able, from the resources of his Country, to afford. We are led to make this observation from perceiving that the Nabob has appealed to your own knowledge for the truth of his assertion that he is unable to make a payment so large as sixteen Lacks of Pagodas annually, in the present state of his Country. The arrangements we made in our Letter of the 9th, December 1784, proceeded on the voluntary offer of the Nabob, as far as relates to the Sum to be applied to the liquidation of his Debts^o, and it was never our intention to press him for any Sum for that purpose larger than what might reasonably be expected from the resources of his country, under economy and good management, without either reducing him to have recourse to fresh Loans, whereby those difficulties would be continued and perpetuated, from which it was our desire to relieve him by a gradual operation, or putting him under the necessity, which would be most repugnant to our feelings, of oppressing by extraordinary exactions the Persons under his Government

4. We must now revert to the Letter you have transmitted to us

from the Rajah of Tanjore It is a mere repetition of old complaints and of arguments fully under our view when we transmitted to you our definitive opinions upon the then indeterminate rights of the Rajah and the Nabob of Arcot You will in respectful but at the same time decisive terms convey to the Rajah our regret that either from his own feelings or the suggestions of others he should be induced to indulge himself in such unavailing complaints We fully and maturely considered all the Articles in dispute between the Nabob and him before we gave our Opinions but we formed those opinions finally and no consideration will induce us to depart from them convinced as we are that they are founded in strict and impartial justice

5 We in like manner remain perfectly satisfied of the justice the policy and even the necessity of the arrangement we suggested for the defence of the Carnatic and the permanent security of all Parties interested in its welfare You will therefore convey to the Rajah of Tanjore our expectations that as he has been restored to the possession of his Kingdom, and holds it by our power and our justice he will without hesitation concur in the measures we have suggested which we conceive to be entirely consistent with justice and with the strictest attention to the rights of the Rajah and which we therefore trust will not any respect be obstructed or retarded by him

London
28th April 1786

We are,
Your loving Friends
(Signed) John Michie/John Mottoux
John Manship

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LETTER DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 1786

Policy regarding assistance to the Marathas—Stationing of military force at Tellicherry—Col Cathcart's Mauritius treaty—objection to the definitive clause to compensate the loss of the French—Company not to commit itself to treaties affecting political rights of the British and other nations

To the Governor General and Council in Bengal

1 This Letter is occasioned by the arrival of the Deptford on the 14th day of August and of the Fox Packet from the Mauritius By the former of these arrivals we are informed of the measure you have adopted of engaging to assist the Marathas against Tippoo by a Detachment of Men from Bombay to act for the defence of the Peshwa's person and Dominions By the latter Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart has laid before

us a Copy of the Provisional Convention entered into between him and the Viscomte de Souillac dated 30th April 1786

2 The different particulars in the Dispatches brought home by the Deptford, will be answered by one of the early Ships of the Season, together with every Dispatch, to which special Answers have not already been made. But we cannot delay the earliest and most speedy method of expressing our disapprobation of the assurances which you have conveyed to the Peshwa and to Scindia, and of the Orders which you have given to the Bombay Government

3 In our Secret Letter of the 21st July, we have in answer to the different questions you had proposed to us, given you our Sentiments on the various contingencies which your questions suppose, and upon the receipt of that Letter, you will have observed, that under such circumstances as your late Dispatches set forth, it would have been our opinion, that you ought to have gone no further than to intimate to the Marattas, that in the event of the French joining Tippoo, they might rely on the assistance of our Troops, and to this we should have added an intimation, that we would not have looked on with indifference to the Marattas entering into any Engagements, for obtaining assistance from the French, for we should consider such a connexion as an act of a Hostile tendency to us, which we should be obliged to counteract, by affording our aid to Tippoo. If such a declaration had been made to the Marattas, we have not the least reason to suppose, that upon such terms, the Marattas would have wished to avail themselves of any assistance the French could afford them. We have examined with the utmost attention the letter from Scindia, which you received on the 15th January, and there is not a word in it, which gives us reason to suppose, that such a declaration would not have had the effect of preventing an Alliance between the Marattas and the French. Indeed these were evidently your own Sentiments, 'till you were induced to depart from them by the surmise of Tippoo's death

4 In the first minute of the Governor General, prepared before the reports had reached you of Tippoo's death, the expectations of the Marattas are stated in the following terms, "*Their propositions are fair and reasonable, they come to specific points They say, assist us against Tippoo, if the French assist him, or oblige the French to be neuter*" We agree with your Governor General, that the proposition was fair and reasonable, but you will advert, that the Governor General's next Minute makes the assurance of Assistance general, without any certainty that the French meant to offer, or Tippoo to accept their assistance

5 In the view we have of the Measure, it directly tends to produce two bad consequences, although it should not immediately engage us in Hostilities. In the first place, it ascertains with precision to the French, the only line of Politicks they can adopt, if they mean to intrigue in India. It forces them to decide upon a connexion with Tippoo, whereas formerly it appears they were kept under uncertainty how to fix the object of their attention, and under that uncertainty, they endangered themselves with

both the Marattas and Tippoo by incurring the imputation of duplicity to both. The other bad consequence is, that it tends to indispose Tippoo and may be used by him as a pretence at any moment he may feel it convenient, to act with hostility towards us

6 Under these circumstances we shall wait with impatience the arrival of your next dispatches and we are in hopes that either from the Marattas not making the demand, or from the Season of the year the march of the Detachment will not have actually taken place. If that should fortunately be the case we are earnestly desirous that you should endeavour to extricate yourselves as far as possible from this embarrassment, and revert to the plain and simple line of Policy, which we have laid down in our former Dispatches. Your principal attention must be to avoid shaking the Friendship and Confidence of the Marattas, and at the same time to remove if possible any unfavourable impression which your assurances (if published) may have made upon Tippoo. To him it will be sufficient to intimate that in conformity to your Instructions from home, you did not mean to send any Detachment from Bombay to aid the Maratta Forces against him because he had not called any other European Force into his assistance which if he had we should have considered as an act of Hostility to us. With regard to the Marattas, it appears to us, that the before-mentioned Letter from Scindia to the Governor General should be the foundation of your communications with that State. From the tenor of that Letter we are persuaded that the assurance which we distinctly repeat, of our being ready to assist the Marattas in case of a joint attack from Tippoo and the French will be fully satisfactory to him. You should express our fullest approbation of the friendly & just intentions conveyed in the general tenor of that Letter at the same time you should explain that it can in no case be possible for us to adopt the idea he intimates in the conclusion of the Marattas receiving aid from the French with our concurrence. Our determination to resist the introduction of any European Force into the Contests of the Indian Princes, will shew him the impossibility of our listening to such a proposal and the same reasons which would justify our acting against Tippoo if supported by the French would equally decide us however reluctantly to join Tippoo against the Marattas if the French should appear in favour of the latter an event however which our reliance in the Friendship of the Marattas convinces us in no respect to be apprehended.

7 What we have thus stated will put you fully in possession of our Sentiments formed on the materials now before us. But various circumstances may have arisen of which we cannot now be apprized which may affect the language to be held either to Tippoo or the Marattas and it will in that case be necessary for you to exercise your discretion on the spot as to the terms of your communication with either of those powers and as to the mode of executing our present Instructions.

8. There are two possible cases to which we think it necessary particularly to advert. It may have happened that Tippoo may have been led to engage (though unsupported by French Troops) in actual Hostilities

against us, or he may have been joined by them in his attack against us, or against the Marattas. In the first case, we can only direct you to endeavour as soon as possible, on any just and moderate terms, to withdraw from the Contest, and to convince him of our intention to adhere to the System we have explained. In the second case (which we trust is the least probable) there is no other choice left, but to pursue, the line we have pointed out to you in our former Dispatches, as proper to be adopted on such an occasion, and by the most vigorous and effectual exertion on our part, to counteract the efforts of France, and prevent their gaining an ascendancy in India, which must be destructive of our Interests in that Country.

9 We have attended to the 45 @ 7 [*sic*] Paragraphs in your Secret Letter of the 28th February 1786 P Deptford, respecting the alarm entertained by our Resident at Tellicherry, from certain circumstances in the conduct of Tippoo Sultan. Upon this subject, we can do no more than refer you to what we stated in our last Secret Dispatch of the 21st July, and the intelligence last received, tends again to confirm us in the proposition of a Military Force being always stationed at Tellicherry, but we need scarce observe to you, that if you adopt that measure, the Officer serving there, should be one on whose Abilities, discretion and Integrity you have the most perfect reliance.

10 Upon the subject of Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart's deputation to Mauritius¹ and the Treaty entered into by him. When we wrote our last Secret Dispatch, we were under an impression that the object of the Deputation was rather to obtain an adjusted reference of the Disputes which had taken place between us and the French, than to settle such important matters without our previous Instructions.

11 We cannot consider the Articles which have been agreed upon at the Mauritius, as in any respect binding, except as far as they may be admitted into a new Treaty with the Court of France, to be negotiated in Europe. His Majesty's Ministers are preparing Instructions for that purpose, in order to bring to a clear and final settlement the several points which have been in dispute, and you will receive the earliest information of the result of the Negotiation. In the mean time, in all transactions with the Agents and Subjects of France, you will make it the general rule of your conduct (except as far as you are now otherwise directed) to adhere to the same line as you would have held under our Instructions, supposing the Treaty at Mauritius never to have taken place. In the following Points we think it necessary to give you more particular Instructions for your guidance in this interval.

1st As to the Government Customs to be levied on the French Trade, you will only require $2\frac{1}{2}$ Per Cent.

2d As to the Salt, Salt Petre, and Ophium you will conform for the present to the substance of the 10th and 12th Articles in the Agreement concluded at the Mauritius.

12 And as to whatever relates to the Visitation of Ships, you will in any exercise of that right, attend carefully to the caution given you in our

Secret Dispatches of the 21st July last

13 Not recognizing the validity of any part of the Agreement concluded at the Mauritius, we object in a particular manner to the Definitive Article expressed in the following terms

'It is agreed and settled definitively that a Corvette nearly such as the *Esperance* belonging to His Most Christian Majesty which was lost in consequence of several Cannon Shot fired from the English Fort of Budge Budge by a mistake of the Officer commanding in the Fort, shall be sent by the Governor General and Council of Calcutta to Chandernagore and delivered by an English Officer to the Agent of the French Nation to replace the said Corvette *Esperance*.

It is further agreed and settled definitively that the Relations and Friends or Cost of the Native attached to the said Corvette *Esperance*, and who perished by one of the Cannon shot fired at the said Corvette shall be indemnified, as far as may be, for their loss, by a pecuniary compensation from the English Government

14 Instructions are sent to the Court of France to intimate that we have sent our Orders to you not to give it effect On the contrary we have just reason of complaint against the French Agent at Chandernagore whose intemperate conduct in a variety of circumstances, and particularly respecting the Corvette *L'Esperance* seems to have been industriously calculated to create cause of variance and interrupt the harmony recently established between the two Nations by the Definitive Treaty of Peace The general Regulations under which the Officer commanding at the Fort of Budge Budge acted had been published and perfectly known many years before. We particularly allude to the Orders of dates 6th August & 5th September 1776 16th June 1777 and 23d February 1784 Whilst those Orders subsisted the Commanding Officer of the Fort could act no otherwise than he did and if any unfortunate consequence followed they are to be attributed solely to the perverse and capitious conduct of the Commander of the Corvette abetted and encouraged by the intemperance of Monsieur Dangereux.

15 We will not use any harshness of expression in the disapprobation we must give to the acknowledgement offered by you as it proceeded from an excess of well meant moderation in the exercise of your Government but we cannot under all the circumstances of the case ratify the acknowledgement which has been offered in the Article of the Treaty which has been settled at the Mauritius

16 We regret the fate of the Native who suffered on the occasion and shall be happy in your exercising towards his family every proper act of attention but we cannot agree that the exercise of such humanity, shall be the subject of Treaty or claimed as a right to be regulated by a National Convention.

17 We cannot conclude without expressing our expectation that you will be strictly careful in future not to commit yourselves by Treaties with European Powers on subjects materially affecting the relative situation

and political Rights of the British and other Nations Regulations of Detail, and Agreements on Points for carrying into effect Treaties which have been regularly concluded here by Publick Authority may frequently become necessary, but, in Matters as important, as those which have been the subject of this discussion, we cannot consider you as having, under your General Powers, Authority to warrant the conclusion of any Treaty

East India House, London,
22nd September 1786
(*Per Jane*)

We are,
Your Affectionate Friends,
(Signed) Jno, Michie/John
Motteux/John Manship

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LETTER DATED 22 DECEMBER 1786

Cautions for the security and protection of British vessels.

TO the Governor General of Fort William in Bengal for the Time being

1 We the Secret Committee of the East India Company do not in the present peaceable Situation of Public Affairs esteem it necessary to give the Commanders of the Company's Ships taken up this Season, any further cautionary Orders for their Safety during their respective Voyages, than are communicated to them in their general Instructions from the Court of Directors, and have therefore only enforced their punctual Obedience to those Instructions

2 All the said Commanders are furnished with Orders from us, that after making St Helena homeward bound, they do bring to act a proper Distance to windward of the Island, and send a Boat on shore to the Governor, with an Officer acquainting him who they are, ordering such Officer to return on board forthwith, that they may know whether they can with safety go into the Road, and on their making sail for it, they are to shew this Signal, Vizt ,

Furl both Topgallant Sails and hoist an Union Flag at the Foretopgallant Masthead

3 Should there remain to be dispatched by you any ships of a former Season, whose Commanders cannot have received the above Signal, you are to communicate it to them, with an Injunction to keep the same entirely secret.

East India House, London,
the 22d December 1786
(*Per Thetis*)

We are,
Your affectionate Friends,
Jno Michie/John Motteux/George
Cuming/J Manship

LETTERS TO COURT

LETTER DATED 11 FEBRUARY 1782

Alleged complicity of Begams of Oudh with Chart Singh—Sindia's relations with the English—resolution of the Bombay Government to withhold revenue of Surat district meant for Bengal detachment.

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble. Sirs,

1 In our last Letter from this Department by the Swallow Packet dated 29th December 1781, We informed you of the Detention of that Vessel for the purpose of carrying home a complete Narrative of the Governor General's Proceedings while at Benares and Chunar, which we daily expect to receive from him, however as the length of this Paper, and the great number of References annexed to it, made it impossible to send them down sooner than he did, and we found it would require a long time to Copy them after their Arrival We determined to Dispatch the Swallow without them, judging that you would be impatient to hear from us on the restoration of Peace in the Districts of Benares, and to receive the latest Accounts from Madras of the situation of Affairs in the Carnatic.

2. We determined at the same time to dispatch the Nancy Snow Captain Hiffenan with these Reports as soon as they could be prepared and We have now the pleasure to transmit them to you a separate Number in this Packet

3 The above Papers contain such a full Account of all the Transactions of the Governor General upon this service, together with his Motives and reasonings upon them, that We think it would be superfluous to add anything of our own but to recommend them to your attentive Perusal

4 By these it will appear that the Treaties and Intrigues of Cheyt Sing supported by the disaffection and restless disposition of the Bhow Begum, Mother to the Nabob of Owde at Fyzabad, produced Insurrections in that Country which 'till lately we were unapprized of, on account of the Communication between that place and Benares being wholly cut off.

5. At the same time that the first Information of these Disturbances reached us, We were happy to hear that they had been quelled by the Accounts received there of the successful Efforts of our Troops in Benares, and the march of two Regiments from Cawnpore to the relief of Colonel Hannay, whose Sepoys gave evident proofs by their desertion that they had been tampered with, and he with most of his Officers were in great Danger of their Lives, a detachment under Lieutenant Gordon having been actually attacked and cut off, and the rest of the Corps being surrounded

by the Rabble levied under sanction of the Begum avowedly for the Service of Raja Cheyt Sing

6 The Circumstances of these Levies is further corroborated by various Reports from Fyzabad and by the List of Cheyt Sing's forces delivered to the Governor General at Chunar in which the Troops said to be come from Lucknow which formed a part of his Strength must evidently be the [same] (since they agree in number) with those which Colonel Hannay declares to have been raised and sent to him from Fyzabad

7 The just Grounds of suspicion which [have] been given to the Nabob by the Begum and other principal Jaghyrdars in his Country by the Symptons [*sic*] of disaffection and even Treachery displayed in their conduct, made it an object of serious Consideration with him to take the first Opportunity which should offer consistent with Justice to dispossess them of the means of becoming injurious to his Authority and the necessities of his Government, requiring extraordinary aid he resolved to take this occasion of depriving them of those extensive Jaghyrs, which enabled them to become troublesome by the Revenues which they yielded and the Number of dependants necessarily retained for their collection and defence and to resume the Lands allowing Pensions to the Jaghyrdars in lieu of the Revenues.

8. As the Resident at Lucknow had been made Guarantee to an Agreement formerly executed¹ between the Nabob and the Begum in which
 [V]ols No 1 & 2 of (the) first part
 [of] the Appendix
 [to] the Governor
 General's Narrative.
 he had engaged for a specific Sum of Money to desist from all further claims upon her it was necessary for him to acquire the sanction of this Government to his intentions before he could carry them into execution which the infidelity of the Begum gave but too much Reason to grant. You will find this Measure provided for in the new Treaty² concluded with the Nabob by the Governor General at Chunar on the 10th September last

9 On the first attempt made by the Nabob to carry this plan into execution against the Begum she determined to resist his Authority and raised a Revolt by the means of her Eunuchs, Jewar Ally Cawn and Behar Ally Cawn who had collected a force of about 5000 Men in Order to set the Nabob at defiance Notice of this second Insurrection having been transmitted by the Resident without loss of time to the Governor General at Benares, he immediately ordered a large detachment to march from Cawnpore and the Nabob resolved to go in Person to Fyzabad On his arrival there by the Assistance of our Troops he took possession of the Kella, and the Eunuchs seeing it would be in vain to make a stand when superior Forces were expected surrendered themselves Prisoners to the Nabob, and their followers dispersed.

10 In order to punish the Begum for this daring ill conduct and to put it out of her power to apply the Treasures which she had amassed to the purpose of raising further Commotions in his Country the Nabob resolved to seize her Wealth which by the Mahomedan laws he was entitled

to as an Inheritance from his Father, who in the latter Years of his Life had committed his Treasury wholly to her charge, and it had remained with her after his Death

11 This Wealth whatever it might be he determined to apply to the Payment of his Debt to the Company, and we have received Information from the Resident who attended him to Fyzabad, that he had actually paid him the Sum of 55 Lacks of Rupees in ready money and by Draft on Bahar and Jewar Ally Cawn which would soon be realized

12 We have the pleasure to acquaint you that Mr David Anderson who was deputed as our Minister to Madajee Sindia for the purpose of effecting a peace with the Maratta Government, thro' the Channel of his Mediation and Influence in the Poona Durbar, arrived at his Camp on the [] and was received with great cordialty, and every public mark of attention.

13 As a further proof of Sindia's good Disposition, We have the Satisfaction to learn that he rejected all the overtures which had been made to him for his protection and support to Cheyt Sing, and that instead of giving any encouragement to them, he wrote immediately to Mr Anderson pressingy inviting him to pceed according to his Deputation

14 The uncertainty of Madajee Scindia's conduct before Mr Anderson's arrival with him, from the false rumours which had been spread of Cheyt Sing's reception there, the necessity of establishing the Authority of the new Raja in the Zemindarry of Benares, of proving the Capacity of the Person who had been appointed to take chaige of it, in quality of his Dewan, and disposing the Military Forces which would be necessary for the protection of the Country, together with the Objects comprized in the late Treaty with the Nabob of Owde, combined to engross the attention of the Governor General, and to detain him longer at Chunar than he intended, but these Points being at length happily placed in such a Train of execution as to dispense with any further necessity for the Governor General's immediate presence there, We have the pleasure to acquaint you that he set out for the Presidency and being returned has this Day resumed his Seat at the Board

15 Our anxiety to send away the present Dispatches which we deem material for your immediate information, on account of the advanced State of the fair Season, puts it out of our power to give you that perfect Account of the situation of Affairs at this Presidency which we promised, but the return of the Governor General and the unreserved communication of Sentiments which is now likely to take place between us, will make it an early object of our attention to take this Subject into our most mature consideration, that we may enter with effect into the Superintendance of the Company's Interests entrusted to our care and unanimously form and attend to the due Execution of such Arrangements as have been adopted, or as may yet appear necessary for the firm establishment of Peace and the general security of the British Possession in India

16. We have just received a Letter from Brigadier General Goddard dated the 8th November last, and one of the 2nd December,

Consn.
11th Feby

which appearing to be of great consequence We have entered them in this Day's Consultation in order to transmit them a No in the Packet.

17 In the first of these Letters, General Goddard advises us of a Resolution formed by the President and Select Committee at Bombay to withhold from the service of the Bengal Detachment under his separate Command, that part of the Revenues of the Surat District which had been especially allotted for their support, and to apply it solely to their own occasions.

18 You may suppose that we were somewhat alarmed at the first intimation of so precipitate a measure but as the subsequent Letter from General Goddard makes no mention of any ill consequences proceeding from it nor contains any thing further on that Subject, we are led to hope that the pernicious tendency of such a partial Resolution had been made more apparent to them and that they had agreed to revoke it at all Events we think we may venture to assure you that it will never take effect as you will perceive by our Letters in consequence to Bombay that We have used the strongest remonstrances against it in addition to the Arguments urged by General Goddard on the occasion We flatter ourselves that the Steps We have taken for securing a Peace with the Peshwa are too far advanced to be frustrated by any thing which might happen to counteract them on that Side of India but We have thought it necessary to cancel the Powers which had been delegated to General Goddard as our public Minister to the Peshwa they having been superseded by the Commission granted to Mr Anderson. We have also desired the General to withdraw any Agents whom he might have employed to negotiate for him at Poona.

19 This Business will now remain solely in the hands of Mr Anderson acting in conjunction with Madajee Sindia a Chief who has always had great sway in the Poona Durbar and generally directed the Councils of that Government, and who (Independant of it s being so much his Interest from the situation of his Territories that a Period should be put to the Maratta War) has already afforded sufficient Proofs of his Zealous disposition to accomplish it. We trust also that the Raja of Berar a Maratta Chief equal in Power to the Poona State of which he is a Member, will use his endeavours to promote it

20 Our first dependance from this Quarter was on the Abilities and Attachment of Dewargur Pundit^s the Raja s principal Minister who had the entire management of that Government during his Life time but We are happy to find that his Death has made no material Alteration, as the Raja has adopted his plans and continues to pursue the same System as before in which he has manifested his own favorable disposition towards our Government by observing the like friendly conduct both in his Actions and Communications during all the time of the late troubles tho he was circumstantially apprized of them which he held previous to that Event. He has also given a signal proof of his Zeal in this cause by offering to repair in person to Poona with a view to settle our differences with that Administration, in a letter which he addressed to General Goddard.

21. In consequence of a Minute from the Governor General which makes a No in this Packet and in which we heartily concur, We have appointed Major Fairfax to take charge of the important Dispatches which accompany this by the Nancy, he will therefore attend you with them immediately on his arrival in England and having had local Opportunities of obtaining a complete knowledge of the transactions in the Zemindarry of Benares, is capable of answering any enquiry which you may be desirous of making upon subjects of so uncommon a nature, and to explain those points to which your curiosity may be directed, but which it is impossible for us to anticipate

22 We have agreed that Major Fairfax shall continue to draw his former Allowances during his absence on this Service, and We beg leave to recommend him to you to be returned with a similar trust if you shall have any special dispatches which you wish to convey to us either by the Nancy or by a shorter and more expeditious Route over Land.

We are Honble Sirs,

Fort William,

Your most faithfull humble Servants,

11th February 1782. Warren Hastings/Edward Wheler/John Macpherson.

Postscript Having received a Letter from the Resident at the Vizier's Court and the Governor General having Communicated letters to us which he has just received from Mr Anderson at Sindia's Camp and from Mr Chapman at Nagpore we enclose Copies of them for your information We have authentic tho' not Public intelligence that General Meadows with the Troops under his Command and that part of the Fleet lately commanded by Commodore Johnson which was destined for India arrived at Bombay on the 6th Ultimo That a Cessation of Arms had taken place between your Government and the Marattas in consequence of which the Governor and Council detached two Battalions of Sepoys to the relief of Tellichery which has for a long time been besieged by Hyder Ally's Forces That with the Aid of this reinforcement Major Abington made a Sally from the Fort in which he completely routed the Enemy Killed about 500 Men took 1200 Prisoners among whom was their leader Sirdar Cawn, a brother in law of Hyder Ally with 50 Pieces of Cannon 60 Elephants, many Horses a large quantity of ammunition and Grain and Treasure to the Amount of three Lacks of Rupees

We think this advantage gained by our Troops at Tellichery so decisive, that if the Presidency of Bombay make the proper application of it in the measures which they may immediately adopt in consequence of this Event it may produce a happy termination of the destructive war in the Carnatic, we deem this intelligence of so much importance that we think it necessary to convey it to you by the earliest opportunity lest you should not have heard it thro' other Channels, we have therefore ordered a Copy of the letter which contains it to be sent a Number in the Packet

[Per Nancy]

Warren Hastings/Edward Wheler

LETTER DATED 8 APRIL 1782

Resumption of Jagirs held by Begams of Oudh—operations of His Majesty's Fleet at Fort St George—march against Arcot—engagements with Haidar Ali—assignment of the revenues of Carnatic to the English—movements of the French fleet—treaty with Sindia

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble. Sirs,

1 This Letter will convey to you a summary Relation of all the material Even[ts] which have passed in the Course of the last ni[n]e Months concluding that the ordinary Dispatch[es] will have made you acquainted with the S[tat]e of Affairs to that Period

2 We have received your Comma[nds] dated 11th January 2nd and 7th February and 11th April 1781 and from the Secret Committee dated the 8th January 8th February 11th April and 9th June 1781

3 We have written to you Letters of the following Dates,

Per Nymph the 16th October 1781

Swallow 29th December 1781

Nancy 11th February 1782

4 On the 7th July the Governor General set out on an intended Visit to the Nabob of Oude. On the 16th he arrived at Benares The Revolt of Rajah Chait Sing which immediately followed and began with the Massacre of a considerable Part of the Troops which attended him and the Defeat of a Party under Captain Mayaffre obliged him on the 21st of the same Month to retreat to Chunar Troops were speedily assembled from Cawnpore and other Quarters and conducted with so rapid a Success by Major Popham who commanded them that on the 21st of the ensuing Month the Zemindarry was again recovered and the Rajah put to Flight and his Forces dispersed Bidgegur the last and the strongest of his Fortresses surrendered on the 10th November 1781 Bauboo Mahipnarin the next Heir of the Line of Bulwant Sing was proclaimed Rajah in the room of Chait Sing and a new and perpetual Settlement made with him by which the Jumma or annual Revenue is fixed at 40 Lacks of Rupees with a Deduction of 2 months or 1/6th for the present Year Choyt Sing fled with a very considerable Treasure successively to the Chiefs of Rowe and Bundicund and to Madajee Sindia at whose Court he now remains protected but without Support or Credit

5 On the 11th September the Nabob Vizier met the Governor General at Chunar and on [the] 24th of the same Month returned to his Capital having afforded the strongest Proofs of his Attachment The Rebel lion extended itself by its Contagion almost at the same instant of Time

to Fyzabad and other Parts of the Vizier's Dominions openly promoted by the Begums, his Mother and Grand-mother It subsided nearly at the same Period with that of Benares The Sum of the Arrangements made by the Governor General with the Vizier, is as follows,

The Temporary Brigade withdrawn

One Regiment of Sepoys stationed at Lucknow on a Subsidy of 20,000 Rupees Per Month.

The Army at Cawnpore limited to the Strength prescribed by the Treaty of 1773 ¹

All British Officers and Pensioners withdrawn from his Service

The Resumption of the Jagheers held by the Begums and others, and of his Father's Treasures deposited with his Mother, and an economical Plan of Arrangement of his Revenues and Finances under the Charge and control of his Ministers Hussen Reza Cawn and Hyder Beg Cawn

6. These Arrangements have been mostly carried into Execution and been productive of an immediate Supply of 55 Lacks of ready Money to our other Resources, and of additional Funds for the Payment of 20 Lacks more for the complete Liquidation of his Debt to the Company

7 On the 29th August the Governor General sent Credentials and Instructions to Colonel Mun to negotiate a separate Treaty of Peace with Madajee Sindia, which was concluded on the 20th October ,
4th November Madajee Sindia offering to become a Mediator for a general Peace with the Maratta State Mr Anderson was accordingly deputed by the Governor General to him with full Powers for that Effect He arrived in his Camp and was well received on the 9th January, and about the 19th or 20th February Madajee Sindia also received full Powers from the Peishwa to conclude a Treaty of Peace We believe that it either hath taken place or that it will In the mean time all Hostilities have ceased and the Government of Bombay rema[in] in the peaceable Collection of their new acquired Revenues, which we understand to be considerable tho' we know not their Amount

8 At the same Time Mr Chapman was deputed by the Governor General to Moodagee Boosla, the Raja of Berar for the Purpose of assisting and promoting the Negotiations of Mr Anderson by the additional Influence of that Government or at least to reconcile it to the new Mediation which we had accepted He arrived at Nagpore the Capital, on the 22nd January, and was well received

9 On the 30th September John McPherson Esqr arrived at this Presidency and took his Seat in Council the next Morning

10 On the 4th of February the Governor General returned to Calcutta

11 On the 6th July we received the first Intelligence of the Declaration of War with the united Provinces On the 10th we took Possession of Chinsura,

12. The following is a Catalogue of the Places since taken from the Dutch by the Operations of his Majesty's Fleet and of your Forces in the Dependency of Fort St. George

9th July	Saddras and Pulicate by Detachment from Madras	}
12th November	Negapatam by the Squadron and a Detachment under General Munro	
6th January 1782	Trincomalay with Fort Ostenburg by the Squadron and a Detachment of your Forces.	
February	Tutacareen by a Party of your Forces On the Coast of Malabar Their Factory in Surat	

13 The Operations of the Army in the Carnatic tho' confined by necessity to a Plan merely defensive have been attended with very signal and splendid Successes and the ascertained Superiority of your Arms which we unite ours with the general Voice of the Public in ascribing to the unexampled Activity and perseverance of the Commander in Chief Sir Eyre Coote

14 We shall add a summary View of the Campaign.

15 On the 2nd of August the Bengal Detachment commanded by Colonel Pearse joined the Army under General Sir Eyre Coote a few Miles to the Northward of Madras The Troops marched on the 16th against Arcot depending on the Assistance of a large Supply of Grain which the Enemy was supposed to have laid up in Trippasore that Fortress was besieged and taken but the Store of Grain proved insufficient to enable the Army to proceed on the destined Service to Arcot the Garrison and Defences of which had been increased by Hyder Sir Eyre Coote therefore marched out to meet the Enemy in the Field and on the 27th he came up with and found Hyder advantageously posted at Pereinbaukin on the Spot where he had defeated Colonel Baillie An Action ensued in which our Troops drove them from the Ground with severe Loss on both Sides and returned to Trippasore whence they marched again to the Mount On the 16th September the Army moved to the Relief of Vellore which was besieged by the Enemy In their way they surprized and routed a Party of 4 000 Horse and 2 000 Infantry which were ravaging and destroying the Pollams.² Colonel Owen was afterwards detached with a Convoy towards Vellore but being attacked by Hyder's whole Army was compelled to a Retreat, which he effected without Loss Sir Eyre Coote then proceeded with the rest of the Troops, obtained a signal Victory over the whole of Hyder's Army which would have been totally defeated had ours been able to pursue their Advantage Sir Eyre Coote afterwards accomplished the Relief of Vellore retook Chittoor raised the Siege of Trippasore and again returned to the Mount for the Rain, himself in a very bad State of Health. About the 20th December Hyder retook Chittoore with a Garrison of one Battalion of Sepoys. On the 3d of January Sir Eyre Coote marched with the Army tho' he was still labouring under a very severe Disorder which on the 5th at Trippasore had nearly proved fatal to him however he recovered and on the next Day continued his March at the Head of the Army under every

Disadvantage both from the Want of Cattle and Provisions, with Intention to effect the Relief of Vellore, which was invested by a powerful Detachment of the Enemy, and reduced to extreme Want Hyder's Army continued retreating before him 'till the 10th when they attacked the Convoy and cannonaded it for 4 Hours, but were repulsed On the 11th Vellore was relieved On the 13th the Army left that Place to return to Madras, but was attacked again by Hyder's whole Force on the same Spot as before with worse Success, and on the 18th it arrived safe at Tippiassore, whence it proceeded to the Mount and was there encamped as late [as] the 5th March, watching the Motions of the Enemy, and ready to march on the earliest Notice to oppose them

16 Hyder was at this Time near Wandewash and Tippoo Saheb his eldest Son in Tanjore, where he surprized and made Prisoners Colonel Braithwaite with some other Officers chiefly of his staff, after defeating a Party of Sepoys under him

17 To this Loss we shall oppose the great and decisive Success of Major Abington the Commanding Officer at Tellicherry, who having been reinforced with 2 Battalions of Sepoys from Bombay, made a Sally with his whole Force on the 8th January against Sirdar Cawn, Hyder's Chief Commander on that Side of India and nearly allied to him by Marriage, completely routed the besieging Army, killed about 400, and took the General with all his Family and 1500 Men Prisoners the rest dispersed, and the Posts of Mahe and Fort George surrendered without Opposition

18 Upon the whole, the Credit of our Arms has been sustained, tho' it's Successes have been rendered ineffective by the essential Wants of Cavalry and Cattle Our Losses and Sufferings have been great those of the Enemy can only be estimated but must have been considerable The following is a Proof of it Private Overtures were made to Sir Eyre Coote by Hyder for Peace some days after the first Appearance of the French Armament on the Coast, and a Negotiation has since subsisted. In reply to the Reference made by the General to us in consequence, we have authorized him to declare our Consent to a Peace on the Condition of Hyder abandoning his Connections with the French, and departing from the Carnatic, but to refer him to the General Treaty³ now in Negotiation with the Peishwa for the Ratification of this or any other Conditions which he may require under the Peishwa's sanct[ion]

19. The President and Select Committee of Fort St. George have advised us of their having received from the Nabob Wallah Jah a full and complete Assignment of the Revenues of the Carnatic and their Charge and Management granted personally to their President for the Services of the War by a formal Deed passed on the 3d of December A most important Acquisition, and a most signal Proof of the Fidelity and Attachment of the Nabob.

20. On the 7th of February a large French Fleet consisting of 12 sail of the Line besides Frigates and Transports was seen of [sic] Pulicate. On the 8th Sir Edward Hughes arrived at Madras from Trincomalay having

under his Command the Snperb, Exeter Monarcha Burford, Worcester, Eagle and Seahorse Frigate and was joined there on the 10th by Commo dore Alms with three Ships of the Line and one Transport containing General Meadow's and Colonel Fullarton and 400 of the King's Troops. On the 15th the French Fleet made their Appearance off Madras and on the morning of the 16th they stood to the Southward Our s weighed and followed and on the 17th having chased the Enemy till they were separated from their Frigates and Transports Sir Edward Hughes made the Signal for chasing the latter in which the Isis being the foremost Ship came up with and took the Lawrston a large Transport laden with Military Stores and having 300 Troops on board and several English Vessels laden with Grain which had been captured by the Enemy on the Coast. The Prizes were immediately sent to Madras, where they arrived The Enemy's Fleet seeing this Operation bore down upon ours and having the Advantage of the Wind which was squally and some Times Calm brought eight of their Ships to engage the Superbo, Exeter Hero Monarcha and Isis. The others on either Side could not come into Action. The Engagement lasted from 4 in the Afternoon till half past 6 when the French ceased firing and hauled their Wind. The Superbo and Exeter were much damaged, and having several Shot between Wind and Water the Admiral thought it necessary to go to Trincomalay to refit whence he returned to Madras on the 10th March and intended to renew the Attack upon the Enemy The French Transports dispersed during the Action and the Duo de Toscane which was their Hospital Ship came to an Anchor in the Roads of Negapatam mistaking it for a friendly Port where she was captured by the Chapman Indlaman and is since arrived here The French Ships by all Accounts were much shattered and two of them totally dismasted The Fleet was afterwards seen in Porto Novo Roads employed in landing their Sick and wounded It appears that the Hannibal an English Ship of 50 Guns on her Way to India was taken by the French Fleet about 2 Months ago in Latitude 2 No and made one of their Line. The Chaser was also taken by the Bellona of 36 Guns, while she was cruising on the Coast to protect the Grain Vessels

21 The Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn continues to profess a friendly Disposition towards us in which we believe him to be sincere. Our Minister Mr Holland⁴ has been long in Treaty with him for a Defensive Alliance against Hyder and in a Letter dated 7th March we instructed Mr Holland to offer him the Assistance of a Detachment of Forces from this Establishment if he could give his definitive Assent to it.

22. On the 2nd of November last General Goddard received Advice of the Treaty concluded by Colonel Muir with Madajee Sindia proposed to depute a Minister to Poona to treat for a general Peace, which being agreed to be deputed Captain Weatherston on this Service who accordingly proceeded to Poona and was well received but on Notice of the Plenipotentiary Powers which had been granted to Mr Anderson he desisted from his Negotiation and deared his Dismission, but consented afterwards to

remain at the urgent Entreaty of the Ministers until Answers should be received from Madajee Sindia to the Instructions which had been sent to him, and which we suppose to have been accompanied with the full Powers already mentioned This is a favorable Symptom of the Disposition of the Member of that Government, whom from his political Situation we might have expected to have found the least inclined to a Peace

23 When we gave you reason to expect an Investment for the ensuing Year exclusive of the large Balance of Goods remaining to be sent home we thought we should be able to spare a Sum to the Board of Trade for that Purpose, but the Exigencies of the Madras Presidency are now become so urgent and alarming as you will see by an Extract of their last Letter that all the Resources which we can possibly dispense with ourselves must be applied to their Support We have therefore adopted a new Mode for keeping up the Investment by private Subscription for 80 Lacks of Rupees which will provide Cargoes for your Ships on the usual Terms of privilege at the Risk of the Individuals and is to be repaid to them according to the Produce of the Sales in England A Copy of the Plan makes a No in one of our separate Dispatches over land

24 The following is a State of our Disbursements to the Ist Ultimo and Investment to the Ist May next

Supplied Madras in Money Bills and Grain	
since the Ist August 1780	CRs 1,07,43,756
Do Bombay since Ist May 1781	36,46,159
Investment realized this Year	1,47,67,300
Expected to Ist May	35,00,000
Dispatched home this Season	46,38,900
Dutch Investment	17,50,000
Opium remitted to China	15,44,130
Certificates granted on Do	20,00,000
In the Treasury, Cash and Bills	34,06,790
Debts owing	1,99,34,626

Estimated Resources of 1782/3

Revenue of the Provinces	2,71,94,112
Benares	39,55,082
Customs	8,26,346
Salt	29,00,000
Opium	3,42,838
Bills and Certificates	18,47,630
Import Sales	12,97,617
Vizier's Debt estimated	76,52,809
Army Subsidy	37,96,200
	<hr/> 4,90,62,631.

We cannot oppose an Estimate of our Disbursements because we cannot be certain of the future State of the War in the Carnatic &c. which

will principally determine the appropriation of our Means, as these must be applied in the greatest Degree to the greatest and most pressing Exigencies.

Fort William
the 8th April 1782
[For Resolution]

We are Honble. Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/Edward Wheler/
John Macpherson

P.S The Valentine will be dispatched to you on the 11th Instant. W.H.

3

LETTER DATED 10 APRIL 1782

Operations against Haidar Ali and the French—Anderson's negotiations with Sindia.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

1st. Having prepared an overland Dispatch by which we give you a Summary account of all the material transactions of this Government we now transmit you a copy of the same and have little to add to it from this department as our proceedings which make a number in the packet will fully elucidate the facts therein alluded to

2d. Since the close of these dispatches we have received sundry important Letters from the President and Select Committee at Fort St George which do not come into our consultations by this Ship but we have ordered copies of them and of such of their enclosures which we deem of consequence for your Information together with our replies to be sent Numbers in the Packet

3d You will observe by our Consultations referred to in the Margin that we have been obliged to take a Mediating part between the Government of Fort St George and General Sir Eyre Cooto in consequence of representations from the latter of their interference in the Military Operations, we trust that the line of conduct which we have recommended to them will henceforward be observed and that the General will be fully satisfied with the independant controul which is thereby proposed to be assigned him in the operations of the Army and which we think deservedly due to his extraordinary Zeal exertion and Success.

4th We have received advices that Sir Edward Hughes with the Squadron under his command was to have sailed from Fort St. George on the 20th Ultimo and the French Fleet after effecting the landing of the Troops and Stores from such of the Transports as had rejoined them since the Action sailed from Lorta Nova the 23 Ultimo leaving about 2000

Consns.
25 Feby
11 March
18 do.

Europeans and 500 coffres who had taken post at Chillembum and Hyder's Army was not far from that place

5th The Remainder of the transports belonging to Commodore Alms's Fleet arrived on the 9th of February at Anjengo where being informed of the departure of the French Fleet from Mauritius to the coast of Coromandel the commanders thought it hazardous to attempt to proceed to Madias and therefore resolved to act offensively on the Malabar Coast and accordingly sailed to Tellicherry on the 10th where they landed the troops under Colonel Humberstone and being joined by Major Abington with his force proceeded against Calicut which had surrendered to them

6th. Hyder Ally having withdrawn the greatest part of his Forces out of his own country into the Carnatic, is most vulnerable in the Quarter where Colonel Humber has attacked him and we flatter ourselves that such a measure if vigorously pursued and properly supported will be more likely than all our successes in the Field against the main body of his Army, to relieve the Carnatic by recalling him into his own dominions which otherwise must remain entirely exposed to the depredations of our Arms and the insurrections of his own dependants Observing that General Sir Eyre Coote and Admiral Sir Edward Hughes after receipt of the above news had sent joint orders to Captain Smith of the Navy, and to Colonel Humberston to hold themselves in readiness to join the Fleet off Trincomalay with the transports and Men, we thought it necessary to urge these Sentiments to the General in strong terms, and as Colonel Humbers [ton] had already begun his operations we hope that the effect of them upon Hyder's Motions which we expect will be apparent before any alteration of plan can take place and by this means that the alteration may be prevented

7th. We are advised by Letter from General Goddard dated the 8th
11 Febr'y November that the President and Select Committee on the 2d of that Month had come to the Resolution of withholding the proportion of the Revenues of the Surat District which had been appropriated to the payment of the Bengal Detachment from this Service and employed it entirely for the occasions of their own Establishment.

8th As the consequences of such a partial disposition of the Funds of the Bombay Government cou'd not but be truly alarming notwithstanding the great amount of Bills drawn upon us by General Goddard we thought it necessary to remonstrate against it in the Strongest terms declaring that our remittances to that Presidency were ever intended to be proportioned out to every branch of the Service according to its exigency and requiring that the same rule of conduct shou'd be observed by them in the appropriation of their resources

9th We are concerned that it is not in our power by this opportunity to advise you of the final event of Mr Anderson's
18 March negotiations with Scindia We see no obstacle at present to retard their conclusion, Mr Anderson being furnished with the fullest instructions and powers from us in reply to Scindia's demand and

in order to prevent the appearance of maintaining a double channel of negotiation at the same time as well as to remove every impediment that it might occasion from the Poona Government we have intrusted Mr Anderson with our positive injunctions to Captain Watherstone to take his leave of that Government and return to his duty under General Goddard which will be made use of or not as Mr Anderson shall think expedient

10th. The state of Affairs in India rendering it impossible for us to
 7th March set on foot the expedition recommended to us by the
 Secret Committee in their several Letters of last season,
 we attended to a proposal suggested to us by Captain Thomas Forrest¹ who
 appeared to be well acquainted with the Molucca Islands to excite the
 King of Celebes the Sultan of Mindano and other Chiefs against their
 Ancient oppressors the Dutch and to endeavour to deprive them of their
 possessions in those Countries At the same time Captain Forrest is
 directed to offer the strongest assurances in our name of the friendship of
 the British Nation towards these Chiefs respectively and to solicit such
 indulgences as they might be willing to grant for the freedom of trade
 with their Subjects Captain Forrest has accordingly sailed in the Fly a
 18 & 25 March small Ketch which was purchased for the occasion and
 takes with him a few chests of opium and some piece
 Goods as a venture of the sales of which he is to render an account We
 have endeavoured to conform to your wishes in this employment of Captain
 Forrest without building any very sanguine hopes on the undertaking
 on venturing to give it such a degree of importance as would have drawn
 us into a large and perhaps entailed expence which we can ill afford with
 so many other and indispens[ible] Calls upon us.

11th By a Letter which the Governor General has just received
 from Captain Watherstone at Poona dated the 9th Ultimo the friendly
 disposition of that Government is very apparent the Governor has likewise
 received other Letters from the Residents with Nizam Ally and Moodajee
 Boosla from which we understand that those Chiefs had formed the reso-
 lution of going to Poona and the former had actually proceeded three days
 on his March towards that city Neither do we think it improbable that
 Madajee Scindia if he cannot be prevailed upon to conclude a General Treaty
 of Peace with our Government from the powers he already possesses should
 likewise repair to the Maratta Capital. The ostensible reason assigned
 for this convention is the intended Nuptials of the young Paishwa but
 we have every reason to suppose that something further is designed by it
 and we hope and conceive that it may be productive of a most formidable
 combination against Hyder as we think that the objections which the par-
 ties separately and individually express to break with him will be removed
 in favor of the General and collective interests of the whole

Fort William
 10 April 1782.
 [Per Valentine]

We are Honble Sirs
 Your faithfull Humble Servants.

LETTER DATED 9 MAY 1782

Surrender of the French Forces off Cuddalore—exchange of prisoners with the French—sepooy mutiny at Barrackpore—terms of treaty with Sindia against Hardar Ali

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble. Sirs,

1 We have now the Honor to forward to you by the Resolution Captain Poynting Duplicates of our last Addresses from this Department by the Valentine dated the 8th and 10th April

2 We have the Pleasure to inform you that since the Date of the above Letters we have heard of the safe Arrival of the Fleet of Indiamen convoyed by the Sultan and Magnanime at Fort St George on the 31st of March These two line of Battle of Ships with the Neckar Frigate of 32 Guns taken from the French, met with and joined Admiral Sir Edward Hughes who had sailed from Madras on the 29th of March for Trincomalay, and the whole Fleet thus reinforced proceeded with all Expedition to the Southward in Pursuit of the French We have received a Letter from Fort St George of the 20th April covering a Paper of Intelligence by which it appears that a Danish Vessel arrived at Tranquebar which passed the two Fleets on the 13th of April off Trincomalay that the French were becalmed and our Ships within Sight of them and under full Sail in a light Breeze of Wind making towards them, so that we may expect daily to hear of a decisive Engagement which from the present State and Strength of our Fleet We have every Reason to hope will be favorable

3 On the 2nd April Monsr Du Chemin the Commanding Officer of the French Forces which had been landed at Porto Nova appeared with his Troops before Cuddalore which he summoned to surrender and sent in a Flag of Truce with Articles proposed for a Capitulation The Garrison not being in a Situation to make any effectual Resistance subscribed to his Terms by which their private Property was secured and their Persons sent up to Madras to be exchanged against an equal Number of French Prisoners

4 This seems to have been an Act performed independant of Hyder Ally and from the Tenor of the Capitulation and the Manner of proposing it. We think that Monsr Du Chemin betrayed such an Anxiety to become possessed of the Fortress in the Right of his own Nation as implied the strongest Suspicion of the Friendship and good faith of his new Ally

5 Another Circumstance which comes to us pretty well attested we likewise think worthy of Notice because it strongly marks the Manner in which Hyder seems inclined to regard and treat this Connection The

French understanding from their Agreement with Hyder that they were to be put in immediate Possession of Chillumbrum one of their Officers demanded the Surrender of the Keys from the Guard which was stationed there, the Sepoy refusing to deliver up his Charge without particular Orders from his Commanding Officer produced some Words which irritating the French Officer he drew his Sword and struck him the Guard complained of this Conduct to his Superior an Account of which being written to Hyder he replied 'Turn the French and their Stores out of Chillumbrum.' In Consequence of which they were not only obliged to quit the Place but for Want of Bullocks compelled to drag their own Artillery and Baggage back to Porto Novo

6 Monsr Du Chemin has proposed to Lord Macartney an Exchange of Prisoners in lieu of those taken by the Enemy on board the Hannibal and his Lordship informs us that he has referred this Proposal to the final Determination of Sir Eyre Coote.

7 The Propriety of agreeing to an Exchange of Prisoners with the French had immediately struck us when we knew of their being possessed of all the Officers and Seamen of the Hannibal whose Services are much wanted in the Fleet and when we considered that the Prisoners in our Hands were not only a troublesome and expensive Burthen to the Company but likely to be more pernicious by the Acquaintance which they must unavoidably Acquire while they reside here with our Situation and Affairs and what the least scrupulous among them may be suspected to turn to our Disadvantage We therefore wrote to the President and Select Committee at Fort St George desiring them either to propose or agree to a Cartel for the Exchange of Prisoners which we hope they will have complied with

8 We found it necessary likewise to desire that they would desist from sending any more of the Prisoners taken from Hyder to this Place as Men who were accustomed to live by Rapine being turned loose in a strange Country without Friends or any honest Means of Subsistence were likely to be a great Nuisance to us if they remained here

9 General Sir Eyre Coote marched with the Army under his Command from the Mount near Fort St George to the Southward on the 10th of April leaving the 78th Regiment which was just landed from England behind him in order to refresh the Men and recover them from scorbutic Disorders with which they had been afflicted This Corps reduced to 500 Men as we understand from private Authority marched to join him near Chingleput on the 27th

10 We beg Leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Marginal for a particular Report from the Commander in Chief of the Rise Progress and Termination of an alarming Spirit of Mutiny which lately broke out in our Sepoy Regiments upon their being ordered to march to the Southern Frontier with a View to form the Detachment which we have mentioned in a former Letter as designed for the Protection of the Northern Circars or such other Service as the Nature of Circumstances might hereafter require

15th April

11. We hope the Examples which have been made of the Principal Men concerned in exciting this Disposition among the Sepoys will put a Stop to any further Appearance of Mutiny among the Native Troops, Indeed we have no Doubt of the zealous and chearful Exertion of these Troops in any Duty, or on any emergency which may call for their Services within the Extent of these Provinces, but the Aversion which Men prejudiced in Favor of their Native Country and who are most of them recruited in the Duab and the Adjacent districts must naturally entertain at leaving their own Families & Connections perhaps for ever, to proceed on any distant foreign Expedition is so great, that if it does not discover itself in open Sedition as in the present Instance, it is generally manifested by the numerous Desertions which immediately take place and which are almost as destructive to the Expedition intended as instant and direct Disobedience and the maimed Sepoys who have returned from the Coast may have tended to encrease their objection to that Service To obviate this Inconvenience in future which is of the greatest Importance while the other Presidencies depend so immediately on this Government for Support, We have ordered a Corps to be raised in Orissa for the express Purpose of Foreign Service, and shall be guided by our Success in this Attempt whether to pursue it or not to any further Extent

12 The Spirit of Mutiny which first discovered itself in Major Popham's Regiment at Burdwan spread also to the other Regiments cantoned at Barruckpore From the Contiguity of this Station we were unavoidably alarmed for the Safety of the Town of Calcutta which is open to Depredation it being impossible to say where a seditious Tumult when once it is excited will end This naturally led us to examine the Means which we had of quelling such an Insurrection in Case it had taken Place, and we called for a Return of the Forces in the Garrison at Fort William, by which it appeared that we had only 214 European Infantry and 212 Artillery fit for Duty, who in such an Event would have been opposed to 5000 Sepoys Thus circumstanced and wishing at the same Time to remedy our Evil which has always existed in this Country from the great Inferiority in Number of our European to our Native Troops, as we had lately received Accounts of the Arrival of Commodore Alms's Squadron with the Troops under the Command of General Meadows and also understood that the 78th Regiment might be expected very shortly, and as the Wants of the Presidency of Fort St George were not of Soldiers but of Money, Provisions, Cavalry and Cattle we thought it a fit Occasion to propose a more equitable Distribution of the European Force in India, and accordingly wrote a Letter to the President and Select Committee at Fort St George pressing them to send us as many Europeans as they could possibly spare for the Security of this Place They have already sent us about 80 Men from their own Garrison and we shall not press them for any more at present

13 We are disappointed of the Recruits intended for the Service of this Presidency by the Northumberland as the President and Select Committee at St. Helena have thought proper to detain them for the Defence

of that Island They inform us that they had an additional Incentive to this Measure from the great Sickness of the Men to many of whom a long Voyage in that Condition they were in would have been fatal.

14 We are happy to inform you that the Part which we thought it necessary to take by our Letters of the 11th March last to prevent any further Differences between the Government of Fort St. George and General Sir Eyre Coote is likely to be attended with that good Effect as the President and Select Committee inform us that they will comply implicitly with our Advice. You will best understand what remains of this Subject by a Reference to the Letters which we have received from both, Copies of which we send Numbers in this Packet for that Purpose

15 By a Letter from Captain Watherstone dated 23d January at Poona to the Governor General containing a Narrative of his Proceedings at that Court which we think sufficiently interesting to merit your Perusal, You will perceive that the Maratta Ministers not only manifest a very strong propensity to be at Peace with the English but even declare an Intention to unite heartily with us in subduing Hyder Ally The urgent Necessities of our Situation had been so strongly represented to them and from the best Authorities that their Expectations were raised to an exorbitant Degree but as Captain Watherston had been deprived by us of his Authority to treat with them and was to take his Leave on the 11th of March and the Negotiation remained entirely in another Channel which was more likely to have an advantageous Issue we entertain no Doubt of its Succeeding

16 By a Letter from Mr Anderson entered in our Consultation noted
15th April in the Margin We are informed that Madajee Sindia in the Terms of Pacification to which he had agreed on behalf of the Maratta State proposed the following Stipulation concerning Hyder Ally That his Name should not be inserted in the Treaty but that it should be mutually expressed that the Friends and Enemies of the one should be the Friends and Enemies of the other and that the Marattas should oblige Hyder to abandon the Carnatic and that every other Point was acceded to conformably to our Instructions to Mr Anderson except the Cession of Ahmedabad which Place had been left in the Possession of Futty Sing¹ to the Marattas an Article positively insisted upon by Sindia and the only remaining Obstacle to the Conclusion of a Treaty As our Engagement with Futty Sing stipulated only that his Interest should be equally attended to with our own in the Conclusion of a Peace and as the many Cessions agreed to by us made it reasonable that he on his Side should yield up this Consideration upon particular Conditions, we immediately directed Mr Anderson to agree to it on our Part and to conclude the Treaty accordingly
15th April

Fort William,
9th May 1782.
[Per Resolution]

We are Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/Edward Wheler/
John Macpherson.

LETTER DATED 26 MAY 1782

Anderson's negotiations with the Marathas—plan to open second front against Haidar Ali from Tellicherry

To the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies,

Honble Sirs,

1 By the Nerbedda Schooner, which sailed for Bussorah on the 8th April, we address to you a Letter in quadruplicate containing a summary account of all the material events which had passed from the beginning of the month of July to that date, Another Copy was sent on the Valentine, which left her Pilot on the 1st Instant and a sixth is in the Packet of the Resolution, which has been dispatched, but we doubt whether she will be able to leave the River Her detention has been primarily owing to the Damage which she sustained in her Rudder, but the present cause of it is a want of Officers.

2 The Negotiation with Madajee Scindia, for a general Peace is yet in suspense We chuse to refer you for the actual State of it to your own conclusions on the following Extract of the last Letter received by the Governor General from Mr Anderson dated the 6th Instant

“A Person who had less experience of the Marattas would venture, if in my place, to say that every thing was settled A Draft of the intended Treaty, after undergoing repeated corrections and alterations, was this morning completely adjusted Every word of it was either agreed to, or alterations were made, in which both concurred But it still remains to be copied fair and to be signed, and many days may elapse before this can be done Ranny Khan, Oppah Chit Novelss, and Mirza Achum must all be present Ranny Khan is sick, Oppah is sickly, and Mirza Achum is so little inclined to promote the business that, if it can tend to retard it, I doubt not but he will be sick also, in this State therefore I shall not intrude on your time with a detail of what points I have been obliged to give up, or of those which I have been able to effect, since it is not impossible, that a few days may furnish matter for a new detail ”

3 Having furnished you with this authority, we may with propriety add our own opinion, but with a stronger conviction, as it was expressed in the words of our Letter of the 8th Ultimo, vizt That the Treaty has actually taken place, or that it certainly will The spirit of procrastination in the Marattas is inseparable from their mode of conducting business, and from a constitution embarrassed with multiplied authorities In the mean time, we have all we wish, and in our anxiety for a termination of this transaction, are more influenced by that of others than by any real inconvenience

attending the delay It is an event which we are sure must have its accomplishment and the disadvantages of the delay are wholly in the opposite scale since Peace subsists with the Marattas universally and inviolably if the Presidency of Bombay are determined as we are to maintain it nor do we think that it is even in their power to break it And with respect to the further advantages which we may hope to make of the Peace, by improving it into an alliance with the Marattas against Hyder these must necessarily wait for their operation until the opening of the next fair season.

4 You will have been informed of the Plan which we recommended to the Presidency of Bombay in our Letter of the 26th December last and of our earnest instances made at the same time to the Select Committee of Fort St George, and to Sir Eyre Coote for their co-operation to detach a large Force to Tellicherry for the purpose of invading the Dominions of Hyder Ally on that side and thereby draw his attention from the Carnatic We have not yet received any Reply to these Letters but we have twice repeated our Recommendation to the Select Committee of Fort St. George and to Sir Eyre Coote, and have again written to Bombay in terms amounting to a positive Order and we have endeavoured, in a Letter to Admiral Sir Edward Hughes, to interest him in the prosecution of the Plan In the mean time a Series of great events has occurred which though no part of our Plan has confirmed our opinion of the advantages deducible from it These are the decisive Victory gained by Major Abington over Hyder's Army which had been two Years employed in the Siege of Tellicherry the consequent relief of that place and Surrender of Mahioud Fort George the subsequent arrival of Colonel Humberston with the 2d Division of General Meadows's Reinforcement in its passage to Fort St. George the Detachment of a large Force under Muchdem Sahob¹ to oppose the suspected Operations of these Corps and as we learn by Reports communicated to us by the Select Committee at Fort St. George and Sir Eyre Coote and apparently drawn from different channels of intelligence, the complete defeat of it by a Body of the King's and Company's Forces detached from Calicut or its environs. These instances of success were followed by new Advances made to Sir Eyre Coote which he ascribes to them, next to the primary effect of our approaching Peace with the Maratta State.

5 On the 20th of March Sir Edward Hughes with Stores and a Reinforcement of Troops for Trincomalay sailed from Madras. The next Day he was joined by the Sultan and Magnanimo which he took with him On the 8th of April he came in sight of the French Squadron consisting of 18 Sail On the 12 the French having the Wind engaged him The Action began at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 o'clock P.M and ended at 40 Minutes past six Both Fleets anchored near to each other and combined at the distance of 5 Miles, until the 19th Inst [In 1] this interval our Admiral had refitted all His Ships except the Monmouth which had lost her main and mizen Masts and supplied their Places with good Jury Masts The enemy in the same condition as on the close of the Action. They made a shew of renewing the Engagement Sir Edward Hughes waited to receive them with Sprigs on

his Cables. They approached within the distance of 2 Miles, then stood out to Sea and were seen no more

[6] The number Killed and Wounded in the Action is as follows

				Killed	Wounded
Superbe	..	..	..	59	96
Exeter	..	..	..	4	40
Monorcha	..	..	..	7	28
Monmouth	..	.	..	45	102
Worcester	..	..	.	8	26
Burford	..	..	..	6	36
Eagle	..	..		—	22
Hero	..	..	.	2	13
Isis	.	.		6	51
Sea Horse	.	..		—	—
Combustion fire Ship	..		..	—	—
Sultan		..	.	—	9
Magnanime		..		—	7
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				137	430
Since Dead				110	110
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Total				247	320
				<hr/>	<hr/>

7. We must add a Circumstance of undoubted authority tho' mentioned only in a private Letter, that the number of killed and Wounded on board the French Hero was 200 Men and that this Ship had been so damaged that the Admiral was obliged to shift his Flag from her to the Ajax

8 This Engagement, which, for the Spirit exerted on both sides, seems to have had few examples, must be considered as a complete Victory obtained on ours, if it has disabled the Enemy from returning to the Coast, and we have reason to believe that it has been attended with this effect, since there are private Advices from Madras of as late a date as the 16 Instant, which make no mention of the return of the French Squadron, an Event too interesting to have escaped such notice, and as near a month had then elapsed since the separation of the two Squadrons, we must conclude that the French have taken some other Course

9 You had been informed in our Letter dated the 8th Ultimo and those addressed to you since that time of the new mode, which we had adopted for providing an Investment for the ensuing year by private Subscription to the amount of 80 Lacks of Rupees and Copies of the Plan were transmitted to you Being afterwards advised that it was liable to strong and weighty objections which might affect both the Property of the Subscribers and the Charter of the Company, we deemed it expedient to alter the Plan, and to substitute another in its stead, of which the following is an Abstract It will come fully before you in our Packet by the Lively, which we mean to dispatch to Europe on the 15th of next Month.

[10] "That Subscriptions be opened for the Sum of 80 Lacks Rupees which shall be wholly applied to the Provision of a separate Investment for and on behalf of the Company that Advances should be made by the Subscribers in stated Proportions and at fixed periods the last of which should be the 15th December that for every Sum advanced or paid by the Subscriber Certificates shall be granted entitling them to receive Bills for the same on the Honble Court of Directors with Interest on the original Sums after the usual Rate of 8 Per Cent Per Annum that Bills payable at 365 days after Sight and at the Exchange of two Shillings for each Current Rupee shall be granted for 30 Lacks of Rupees in the Proportion of 80 on the 31st of December next and that at the same time Bills for the remainder of the Subscription including the Interest one [sic] the 31st December 1783 shall be granted with the Period of Payment extended to 730 days after Sight that the Investment produced by this Subscription shall be provided by the Board of Trade but subject to the order and controul of the Governor General and Council in the specification of the kinds qualities and Prices of the Goods which are to compose it and separated from Company's usual Investment."

11 The success of the Plan has, we own exceeded our Expectation We know and indeed the event has proved it that it has given universal satisfaction except to the Danish and Portuguese Adventurers to whose use we are morally certain that this great mass of Treasure was destined, had we not intercepted it by this fortune [sic] expedient and we doubt not that for this Reason alone it would exempt us from your disapproval, were it even independent of other advantages from which we promise ourselves the Reward of your Applause

The Sums to be subscribed were completed immediately and Applications were afterwards made to a large Amount Our present concern is to retain the Money tendered beyond the accepted Subscription and for this purpose as well as to make some compensation to the Proprietors for their disappointment we have Resolved to grant them a preference according to the Order in which they stand upon the List in the additional Loan which may be required to complete the Amount of 80 Lacks in case of deficient Payments at the Treasury by the first Subscribers and in the next Loan which may be raised for a similar Investment for the Year 1783/4

12 The State of Our Treasury Yesterday (25th May 1782) was as follows: Vizt

Ready Money			
General Treasury	486452.	13	8
Khalas	139642	5	0
	<hr/>		626095 3 8
Bills Receivable			
General Treasury	382031	1	3
8 Rs. 330113	— —		
Khalas	132201	10	—
	<hr/>		510186 4 0

Mint
General Treasury
Khalsa \

961138 3 7

8[sic]61138. 3 7.

Unsorted Treasure
Khalsa
From Bellooah 21914
4005

Rupees 25919 Valued at ten Per Cent better
than Current Rupees

23510 11 6.

Current Rupees

2155930 10—[sic]

The Amount of Sums as follows

Balance Account Deposites 2038836 13 9

Do Accountant General to the Mayor's
Court 120161 13 9

Do. of the Old Bonded Debt on which
interest has ceased by Publick Adver-
tizement 45117 — 8.

Do on Account of the Church Wardens
allowing a running Interest by Order
of the Court of Directors 57600 — —

2261715. 12 2.

The Amount of the New Loans as follows

New Bonded Debt 14983754 1 6

Four Per Cent Remittance

Loan 1780 1926900 — —

Do 1781 1857600 —. —

Do 1782 299700. — — 4084200 — —

Annuities 106730 — —

19174681 1 6

The amount Received on Account the New Loan this Week

New Bonded Debt 500 — —

Increase on the Deposites this week 46785 2. —

In this Sum is included

Ingots amounting to 337742 9. 1

Rupees of Sorts to the

Amount of 111258 9 —

Fort William,
26th May 1782.
[Per Lively]

We have the Honor to be Honble. Sirs,
Your most faithful Humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/Edward Wheler/
John Macpherson.

LETTER DATED 15 JULY 1782 /

Treaty of Salby signed—its advantages—differences between the C in C and the Governor of Fort St George—Lord Macartney's treatment of the Nawab of Arcot resented

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honorable Sirs,

1st. Having prepared the Lovely Packet for conveying our despatches together with the Annual Books and proceedings of this Government We have the honor to address you by her and to forward our last Letter written to go by the Resolution under Date the 9th Ultimo

2nd The Event which we have given you reason from all our late advices to expect and for which we ourselves have anxiously waited till this Time has now we have the pleasure to inform you been accomplished. Mr Anderson has concluded his Negotiations with Madajee Scindia which have happily terminated in a Treaty of Peace and Friendship with the Maratta State This Treaty was Signed and formally agreed to by the immediate parties at Salbey on the 17th of May One Copy of it was instantly forwarded by Madajee Scindia to Poona, to be ratified and confirmed by the Seals and Signature of the Peshwa and his Minister in virtue of whose Plenipotentiary powers he had acted and the Counterpart was at the same time sent down to Calcutta by Mr Anderson to undergo a similar Ratification from us. We immediately caused the Treaty to be drawn out fair in the English and Persian Languages and despatched it to Mr Anderson formally Ratified by us on the 6th Instant

3d. You will observe that the several Provisions in the Treaty are to take effect from the Date of the regular interchange of it with Madajee Scindia after the return of the Ratifications from Poona and Calcutta.

4th. Within two Months from the Period of that Interchange the several Districts¹ which we have agreed to deliver back to the Marattas are to be given up to the possession of the Officers whom they may appoint to receive Charge of them and within Six Months from the same Period it is stipulated that Hyder Ally Cawn shall quit the Carnatic and relinquish all the Territory and Prisoners taken by him during the War

5th. We think it needless to point out to you the Evident Tendency of this Clause independent of the positive and Solemn declaration of Madajee Scindia if Hyder shall refuse to accede to it, The Alliance betwixt him and the Maratta Government was unnatural and could only have taken place from the Factions of Poona, the Intrigues of the French and

would hardly suffice to defray the necessary Charges of maintaining it

8th At present we have every reason to believe that the Treaty when once confirmed will be a lasting one The advantages of it are reciprocal and Madajee Sindia has bound himself as Guarantee to controul and compel the observance of it in either Party who shall be found to transgress its Conditions, thus assuming a right of Sovereignty over particular Acts of that State to which he acknowledges Fealty and thereby adding greatly to the Importance of his own Situation as well as to the natural Weight and Influence which he before held in the Maratta Government as a Member of it he therefore becomes peculiarly interested in preserving the Peace which he has thus been the Channel of Establishing The situation of his Territories establishes a still more forcible obligation upon him to maintain the Treaty The Experience which has taught him that a War between the English and the Marattas is in its first consequences an Invasion of his Dominions from each side of India has made a lasting impression on his mind and must secure his Friendship to this Government while it acts upon the principles and Policy which dictated the march of our Troops into Malva and towards his Capital. An opposite System might speedily forfeit his Alliance and with it the Peace and Revenues of these Provinces This is a Consideration which we wish you over to hold in view

9th. We cannot pass without remark another clause of the Treaty which we conceive may be fraught with the most beneficial consequences to the Interests of the British Nation in India. You will find by the 13th Article that the Marattas are inhibited all connection or intercourse with other European Nations and that no Europeans are to be allowed to hold Factories or Establishments of any kind in the Maratta Country on the other side of India excepting the Portuguese (such as they now possess) and the English

10th The very liberal and friendly Conduct of Madajee Sindia both formerly in obtaining the release of the Hostages who had been committed to the Hands of the Marattas as a Pledge for the performance of the Treaty executed by the Bombay Deputies at Worgaun (the Terms of which were never either acknowledged or fulfilled) and his conduct in other Instances immediately regarding that Presidency as well as throughout the course of the late Negotiation with him induced us to consider the Claim which he had upon the Justice of the English to the possession of Broach this place having been specially and personally Ceded to him by the Bombay Deputies under their Hands and Seals at Worgaun his claims to it were connected with the National Faith We had it is true renounced the Worgaun Treaty and positively disclaimed any Authority in the Agents to conclude it yet the necessity of their situation having compelled the Convention and the Bombay Army then in the Power of the Enemy having been by the means of Sindia in consequence of the Worgaun Convention allowed to retire in safety we thought it proper of our own accord to grant him a Sunnud for both the Mogul and Maratta Shares of the Town and Purgunna of Broach in the extent in which we ever possessed them by

conquest from the former and by the two last Treaties from the latter We determined upon this grant in order to express our sense of Sindia's behaviour and the Gratitude to which he was entitled by the Company and the Nation We have no doubt but you will agree with us in the good Policy of endeavouring by this spontaneous Act to secure the Goodwill and attachment of a powerful Chief who has long had a principal Direction in the Maratta Councils and of late has manifested such a strong inclination to promote a good understanding with the Company, and in this persuasion we trust you will approve and confirm our Proceedings

11th. We beg to remark to you upon this Subject, that Sindia had no foreknowledge of our determination about Broach till he had signed the Maratta Treaty any prior Intimation of our Intention to put him in possession of Broach might have struck him as a Proof of our Eagerness to conclude the Treaty and have thereby frustrated our Wishes You will please to observe that as the Ratification of the whole Treaty by the Administration of Poona must be a previous step to Sindia's getting Possession of Broach, we possess in this Act of public Liberality and justice to Sindia, a powerful security for the Ratification and permanent advantages of the Treaty Besides these public Considerations of a Political nature we acknowledge that it was evident to us that the possession of Broach was no advantage to the Company however it might be to their Servants at Bombay The expences of that Establishment on a Scale of Defence were nearly equal to it's revenues Future troubles would arise about the boundaries and the Price of Cotton which is the Staple of that District rose in the Bombay Market with our Possession of the place, such are the natural consequences of a Commercial Establishment possessed by Men who are the Dealers in the specific Article of Trade which it produces

12th We are aware that many objections will be raised against the Treaty especially by those whose apparent consequence or views are affected by it and we are sensible of the reluctance with which your Presidency of Bombay are likely to give up the entire possession of those Territories which the exertion of this Government had added to their Government As yet we have not seen any substantial advantages derived from holding these Possessio[ns] In general they are so situated as to be entirely open to the incursions of the Maratta Horse there was no likelihood therefore that we should possess them undisturbed without a Force sufficient to awe the Enemy from attacking them and such a Force the Revenues collected we believe were by no means able to support at least we may conclude so by the enormous increase of Bonded Debt at Bombay which instead of being paid off as you had designed amounts at this Time we believe to upwards of one Crore of Rupees a Circumstance which as General Goddard's Detachment has been paid by us with other extensive remittances to their Presidency too plainly proves the unprofitable Tenure of such Possessio[ns] The Restoration of these Countries considered in this point of view cannot be regarded as any loss to the Company but on the contrary, the precarious

possession of them maintained at an expence greatly beyond the resources of that Government or our ability to supply them and by the continuation of a War which w[as] unassisted by a Government whose means were already exhausted could no longer support with effect rather made them a Burthen than an aid to us in our present situation. Weighing in the opposite Scale the danger of losing our Possessions on the Coast of Coromandel for want of affording that Vigor to the defensive War carrying on in the Carnatic against the United Forces of the French and Hyder Ally which the greatest Exertions of our Endeavours was scarcely equal to maintain there can be no longer any Room to hesitate in pronouncing upon the expediency of the Sacrifice we were obliged to make for obtaining a Peace with the Marattas, A Peace which at the same time promised us both the advantage of their assistance and the certain power of employing the Company's Troops on the Western side of India in conducting a formidable Attack against the most valuable Possessions belonging to Hyder Ally and such an attempt appears to us to promise the only effectual means of drawing him out of the Carnatic as our immediate Victories over him in the Field for want of Cavalry to pursue our advantages and render them complete, are more splendid than substantial, But we must rely chiefly on the Goodwill and exertion of the Presidency of Bombay to give Aid to the Execution of this Plan which will be immediately under their direction We are sensible they will want Funds to carry it through notwithstanding the Countries conquered from the Marattas remain yet and have long since been in the peaceable Possession of your Aumils we shall therefore make a grand Effort to supply them in order if possible to render our designs successful under their Management In December last we proposed to them in the most urgent Terms a plan of Co-operation with the Presidency of Fort St. George's a Plan which had our directions been attended to must have long since relieved the Carnatic We shall persist in enforcing similar Exertions, but we only possess the Power of representation not of Compulsion.

13th. This Plan will require the present Employment of a considerable part of the Forces of that Establishment. We are sensible that during the War the burthen of their Expence will fall upon this Government and we must be prepared to support it but a vigorous exertion in the beginning may serve to relieve us from this heavy load while the faint or languid persecution [sic] of Hostilities can only tend to protract and encrease our distresses. The Presidency of Bombay has not yet favored us with the State of their probable Receipts and Disbursements which We required in December last till it arrives we cannot be clearly informed of their absolute wants or judge how we should divide between their necessities and those of Fort St. George the resources which we can spare our utmost ability shall be strained to enable them to make a grand Effort against Hyder

14th The necessity of disbanding a considerable part of their Forces or of maintaining them during the war upon Foreign Resources may be urged by the Gentlemen at Bombay as an Argument against the

Restoration of those Countries from the Revenues of which they hoped to defray their Expences, but if it appears, as we are certain it will that these Forces were so dispersed thro' a long Tract of Country that they could be of no use in the actual Defence of Bombay without abandoning those possessions to the Enemy for the protection of which they were entertained, and that the Revenues of those Districts could no longer be collected by the Government of Bombay than while they were able to retain a sufficient number of Troops in them to enforce the Collections and secure them from foreign Invasion We declare our opinion that your Settlement at Bombay was little benefited by the assistance of such Forces and consequently the reduction of that Presidency to it's original Military Establishment with an addition only for the protection of Salsette cannot be considered as a great disadvantage to the Company since no Idea was ever formed of maintaining a larger Military Force at Bombay than a War Establishment for the defence of that Island and it's immediate Dependencies, which they ought to be better able to maintain than before the acquisition of Salsette

15th. We have heard it asserted that the Presidency of Bombay are averse to acknowledge any advantages derived from the Services of General Goddard's Detachment and conceive that they might have been able to procure as honorable a Peace with the Marattas by the means of their own Strength We hope it is unnecessary for us at present to look back as far as to recapitulate the Circumstances attending this Detachment We believe that the Presidency of Bombay would have been very glad to have decided their Contest with the Marattas without it's assistance, but the affair at Worgaun and the desperate situation to which the Presidency of Bombay must have been reduced at that time, if the detachment had not been so far advanced as to afford them effectual Aid by awing the Enemy from pursuing the advantages they had gained, or even from insisting on the Terms which had been conceded to them are alone sufficient Proofs to overset such a Doctrine

16th Had it been the good Fortune of the Company and of the Nation to have established on the Western side of India that Influence in the Maratta State which would have secured the Presidency of Bombay in the peaceable possession of a well maintained Territorial Revenue equal at least to their Expences, before the Carnatic was neglected and a General War had extended from Europe to India, the Views of the Presidency of Bombay and of the Company had been answered and a complete Influence must have been established in India in favor of the British Empire, But with a Change of Circumstances came a necessary change of System The sudden and almost absolute loss of the Carnatic demanded every sacrifice upon the part of Bombay that could tend to recover our Footing on the Coromandel Coast The attack made there by our natural Enemies with a powerful Armament left no alternative Happy shall we esteem ourselves if by every labor and management in Negotiation and every effort to supply we may yet be able to maintain our Ground in the Carnatic and to support Bombay upon its original Establishment The Completion of the

Maratta Treaty next to the advantages we have already derived from the Pacification with that State constitutes our Sanguine Hope that we shall be able to effect these great purposes notwithstanding our numerous and very pressing Difficulties.

17th On the 29th of March Sir Edward Hughes sailed with the whole Fleet from Madras having Stores and a Reinforcement of Troops for the Garrison of Trincomalay which it was supposed might be in danger from the Approach of the French Squadron The next day he fortunately fell in with our onward bound Fleet and was joined by the Sultan and Magnanime which left their Convoy bound to Madras On the 8th of April Sir Edward Hughes came in sight of the French Fleet consisting of 18 Sail and wishing to avoid an immediate Engagement which at such a distance might hazard the landing of the Reinforcements at Trincomalay he bore away for that place and on the 12th the French who had kept constantly in sight of our Fleet having the Wind bore down and Attacked him off the Harbour of Trincomalay The Action began at half past one oClock with great warmth on both sides and ended at 40 Minutes past Six when both Fleets being very much shattered dropped their Anchors and continued intermixed almost within random shot of each other until the 19th being employed during this Interval in refitting When the Ships were able to put to Sea the Enemy being Anchored without ours and having the advantage of the Wind first weighed their Anchors and made a show of approaching to renew the Engagement Sir Edward Hughes waited to receive them with Springs upon his Cables but when they came within the distance of two Miles they altered their course our Fleet then weighed and went into the Harbour of Trincomalay

18th The Number of Killed and Wounded on our side in this Engagement was as follows

	Killed	Wounded
Superbo	30	96
Exeter	4	40
Monarcha	7	28
Manmouth	45	162
Worcester	8	20
Burford	0	30
Eagle	—	22
Hero	2	13
Isis	0	51
Sultan	—	0
Magnanime	—	"
Sea Horse Frigate	—	—
Combustion Fire Ship	—	—
	<hr/> 137	<hr/> 139
Since Dead	110	"
Total	<hr/> 247	<hr/> 12

19th We must add a Circumstance of undoubted Authority, tho' mentioned only in a private Letter that the Number of Killed and Wounded on board the French Hero amounted to 200 Men and that the Ship was so damaged that Mr Suffren was obliged towards the close of the Action to shift his Flag into the Ajax

20th This Engagement which for the Spirit exerted on both sides seems to have had few examples, must be considered as a Victory on our's while it obliges the Enemy however disabled to keep the Sea and cuts them off from any Neighbouring Port in which they could refit and refresh their People tho' we understand that they have not entirely left the Coast a great part of the Fleet having been seen off Battacalo on the Island of Ceylon by the Armed Transports coming round from the Malabar Coast to whom they gave Chase in their way to Fort St. George on the 9th Ultimo.

21st. You will receive from Fort St. George by a Packet now under dispatch from thence a full and more accurate detail of the operations of the Army under the Command of Sir Eyre Coote and of the management of the Presidency of Madras than any account we can at present convey to you It is our intention to direct the Lively to touch at Madras unless further accounts of the Naval Operations in the Bay shou'd prevent us

22nd It is with pain we inform you that the necessary and desired Cordiality does not subsist between the Departments of your Governor and Commander in Chief upon the Coast and complaints have arisen between the Nabob of Arcot, now reduced to an Inhabitant of Madras and your President Lord Macartney which give us much uneasiness from the real pity due to the Nabob's situation³ and the impressions which that situation makes upon the other Princes of India, whose confidence and Alliance we are necessarily Cultivating We shall to the utmost of our Power endeavour to conciliate these differences and we attribute much of their Operation to the public Distress which sharpens often instead of soothing and accommodating the Dispositions of the Public Leaders in any difficult Scene.

23rd With the influence of private Representations to promote Harmony at Fort St George we shall make redoubled Efforts to relieve the Public wants of that Settlement.

24th From this management on our own part, we hope for the best Success to your affairs in the Carnatic. But in the Event of an increased misunderstanding between the Civil and Military Rulers of Fort St George and if that unfortunate Spirit prevails which on supposition of necessary tho' partial oeconomy supercedes the Commiseration due to those Princes who are in Alliance with us and who may literally be said to be now without Territory without Credit and loaded with Debt living as Fugitives within the Walls of our remaining Forts, We must freely confess to you that any Prospect of speedy or solid Prosperity on the Coast of Coromandel is not much to be depended upon our Enemies will certainly avail themselves of disagreements so unfavorable to our Interest The Springs of every

Public vizer will relax and if we are not so fortunate as to overcome our Enemies while every resource of this Government is applyed to the under taking, and before they establish their ground completely our difficulties may encrease when we are less able to sustain them.

25th We foresee the dangers of such Events and shall anxiously labour to anticipate every measure that can tend to give Union Harmony and Exertion to the Springs of Government in the Carnatic. The News of the Maratta Treaty will we are confident operate to give efficacy to our earnest wishes relative to this object and have a dismaying effect upon our Enemies.

26th We shall conclude this Letter by informing you that the happy Union which reigns on our own Councils has enabled us to proceed successfully on a plan of Retrenchment in our Disbursements and of exactitude in collecting your Revenue, as well as Secrecy in our Deliberations and Transactions with the Country States. Hence are our best expectations derived for the general Reestablishment of your affairs. We anxiously wish to meet with a proper Cooperation from the other Presidencies, without it, our best efforts are not sufficient to produce a general Effect. To retrench our Disbursements without exciting a general and dangerous dissatisfaction requires Secrecy, universality of operation, and the utmost management. We are taking our measures upon these Principles. The Affairs of Oude require similar Attention.

Fort William
the 15th July 1782
[Per Lively]

We are Honble. Sirs
Your most faithfull humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/John Macpherson.

7

LETTER DATED 10 NOVEMBER 1782

Delay in the ratification of the treaty of Sally—differences between Sir Eyre Coote & Lord Macartney—naval battle between the English and the French off Trincomali—death of Naurab Najaf Khan.

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon ble Sirs,

1st We had prepared a Letter under date the 15th of July to be conveyed to you by the Lively Packet a duplicate of which is enclosed. We then hoped to have been able to dispatch that Vessel with news of the Ratification of the Marratta Treaty but that event depending in its speedy accomplishment upon the Procrastinating Spirit of the Darbar of

Poona and the Influence of various Intigues we may be induced to dispatch the Lively Packet before it takes place. We have ordered the Fox Packet to be in readiness to carry you that and any eventual Intelligence of Importance

2nd. We have had the honor to receive your Letters by the Tryal Packet dated 29th August 1781 and 1st January 1782 and by the Worcester dated 25th and 29th January 1782.

3rd. We have also received by Different conveyances overland Originals, Duplicates, and Triplicates of advices from the Secret Committee bearing the following Dates :

6th October 1781

8th December—with a Postscript

4th January 1782

1st February with do. of 22d February.

4th We have observed above that the Ratification of the Marratta Treaty concluded with Madajee Scindia still remains in suspense. The latest letters from Mr Anderson dated 26th October which We beg leave to point out for your Perusal, mention that the final confirmation of it was promised by Authority from Scindia [’s] Vackeel at Poona to his Master within 15 days, but as we wish not to mislead you in this point, We must Confess that we join with Mr Anderson in doubting the faith of this Assurance The procrastination already Manifested by the Ministers throughout this Negotiation, Proceeding as well from the fundamental constitution of that Government as from secret influence and mutual jealousies which probably subsist among the members of it, is a sufficient ground for this Conclusion A Person ostensibly confidential, named Narroo Sheo Deo¹ has been deputed from the Ministers to Sindia’s Court but not expressly charged with the Ratified Treaty

5 We must remark however that in the mean while a Peace actually subsists in the completest manner with the Marrattas We have no present cause to apprehend the breach of it and your Presidency of Bombay, during the suspense of the Treaty, continues in the Peaceable Collection of the Revenues of a large tract of conquered Country which after the Ratification shall have taken place, must be Restored to the Marrattas

6 In this situation the President and Select Committee at Bombay are better enabled to act with effect against Hyder Ally than if the Treaty had been immediately Ratified and they consequently dispossessed of those Resources. If we judged it necessary for the preservation of the Carnatic in December 1781 to enjoin the Presidency of Bombay positively to withdraw their Forces from the Marratta Territories in order to make a Powerful diversion in those of Hyder, altho’ no regular agreement for a truce or Peace had taken place with the Marrattas but only a forbearance of Hostilities how much stronger is that necessity now evinced by the altered Situation of things, a peace virtually subsisting by Treaty with the Marrattas and our distresses in the Carnatic being encreased both by the

longer Continuance of the War and the formidable allied Strength acquired by our Enemy

7th. On these grounds, as no Steps had been taken on the Malabar Coast in consequence of our former most earnest Directions We thought it necessary to expostulate upon the Conduct of that Presidency and to enforce our orders if possible in Stronger and more peremptory terms than before for which purpose We wrote to them the letters Copies of which make Numbers in this Packet Judging it necessary at the same time to remove every obstacle of any real Weight to their operations on the Malabar Coast and to leave them no plea for inaction We Remitted them Bills with our last letter for 15 Lacks of Rupees exclusive of the Current and ordinary Supply which We still continue to send them

8 Before we enter upon the affairs of the Carnatic We think it of too much importance to the Public interests to defer mentioning the Differences which have subsisted for a long time past between Lord Macartney and Sir Eyre Coote in the conduct of their Respective Departments at Fort St George.

9 We mentioned them briefly in our last Letter but that you may be more fully apprized of the Nature of them and their tendency we think it proper to be more explicit here. As long ago as the Commencement of the present Year Sir Eyre Coote conceived his exertions and operations so much embarrassed by unseasonable and irregular interference of the President and Select Committee of Fort St. George, in the Powers of his Military Command instead of being assisted or supported by them as he expected that he thought it necessary to appeal to this Government for the influence of its Controuling Authority to Relieve him Declaring that unless those embarrassments were Effectually Removed and all the Military operations in the Carnatic left to his sole and exclusive conduct and Controul so that they might be consistently and uniformly directed to one object it would be impossible for him to exercise any longer his Command or to afford his Services with any hopes of Credit or Success but that he must in Justice to the public and his own honour Relinquish the Task as impracticable.

10 At the same time to convince us of the just grounds which he had for Complaint and to state to us fully the Different instances which he alluded to in the Conduct of the Government of Fort St George he Deputed Mr Thomas Graham his Persian Interpreter to this Place to lay the several circumstances before us.

11 Lord Macartney also aware of the above Reference sent his Private Secretary here to represent the particulars of his conduct in the course of these differences and to furnish us with any explanations which we might require from him

12. Thus situated and considering it of less consequence for us to enter into the investigation of Points which being already passed might only serve to Renew and inflame the subjects of former contention, than to

endeavor by an immediate and effectual interposition to prevent the continuance of such disagreements in future, we therefore preferred this line and altho' We were individually acquainted with the Subjects referred to us as we knew that an investigation of them must either lead to a condemnation of Lord Macartney's Conduct or a Declaration that the complaints of Sir Eyre Coote were ill founded, neither of which decisions could answer any eligible purpose, we declined to enter into any public enquiry concerning the allegations before us, and this his Lordship has been pleased to term, judging a cause without hearing it, the Fact is proceeding on the above ground[s] We thought it would be agreeable to the Spirit of your instructions in cases of Actual invasion, which was the real State of all your Possessions on the Coast at that time to suggest it as our opinion independent of any past facts that the General's Wishes should be gratified in the fullest extent, so much merit was due to the unexampled Zeal and exertions of Sir Eyre Coote, in despite of the severest and most dangerous illness and so much deference Necessary to the Confidence which the Army Reposed in his Command, that he had a peculiar claim to such a trust and for the sake of preserving an uniformity of System, Action and Controul, We accordingly Recommended that he should be allowed to Possess an entire and unparticipated Command over all the Forces under that Presidency excepting the immediate Garrison of Fort St George

13. Having proposed this line of Conduct in the strongest terms of advice and Recommendation to the President and Select Committee at Fort St George We enforced the observance of it by a Reference to our own example in having placed all our Troops on Foreign Service under his immediate and absolute command.

14. We remarked to them in the same Letter that "every Government must of course Possess an Ultimate and over Ruling authority and that the Right of exercising such authority which is inherent in it must also be invariable and Perpetual notwithstanding any Restrictions which it may impose upon itself for particular Purposes "

15 The rule we had laid down appeared to us the clearest that could be adopted and the least likely to be attended with any further inconveniences, We were also warranted in prescribing it by the great and Ultimate concern which we had in the Preservation of the Carnatic and the extensive Supplies which we incessantly contributed to that end

16. As a deficiency of carriage cattle appeared to be the greatest impediment to the Movement and success of the Army, and the means pursued by the Presidency of Fort St George were very inadequate to the proper Supply of that necessary Article of Accommodation, We Pointed out to them such measures as we thought Requisite and more likely to prove effectual than any they had yet adopted Our plan was by Assessment on the owners of Cattle throughout the Contiguous parts of the Country obliging them to deliver up their Bullocks for the Public Service on receiving a Suitable Compensation in Return We cannot say whether this mode was ever carried into execution but it is certain that the Complaint of want of

Carriage for the Army has never been Removed and that this defect has prevented the entire accomplishment of its most important expeditions which would otherwise have been undertaken with almost a certainty of Success.

17 The President and Select Committee at Fort St. George on
 Consn. 29th April Receipt of our Letter on the foregoing Subjects wrote us
 a short Reply that they would pay implicit obedience to
 all our orders therein Contained They likewise wrote to Sir Eyre Coote
 acquainting him that they invested him with all the
 10th May Powers Authorities and Responsibilities desired by us.
 The terms of this Concession little implied that hearty degree of concurrence
 which we wished and expected to find in the Madras Government to pro-
 mote the Welfare of the Service by a free and Cordial Surrender of the
 Powers We had defined to the Commander in Chief and a natural desire
 which would have been the consequence to Support him in it to the Utmost
 of their Abilities. The Result has unfortunately evinced our Conclusions
 to be just, for it appears that a jealousy has all along prevailed which
 prevented any Confidential intercourse or communication between the
 Government of Fort St. George and the Commander in Chief, at length
 indeed their public discussions have been conducted with a degree of
 Reproach and Acrimony which must ever be prejudicial to the common
 cause and our endeavors to preserve harmony have met with a very
 ungracious Reception from the President and Select Committee who
 thought proper to inform us that the Ancient Constitutional System of
 their Government was subverted by the power delegated to General Sir
 Eyre Coote apparently meaning by this Subterfuge to throw any blame
 which might be imputed to them for the Consequences of the War upon this
 Government.

18 An Interpretation of our Letter so foreign to any thing We had
 intended to convey by it added to an apparent indisposition in the Govern-
 ment of Fort St. George to receive in good part any attempt which We
 could make to promote union among its different Members but Rather
 Caviling at the terms of our Interposition or ungraciously Accepting our
 Advice as a Mandate We thought it necessary to absolve them entirely
 from any further obedience to what they considered as orders tho' We in
 the first instance had declared them to be only our *Opinion* and *advice*
 not delivered in the Style or designed to operate with the force of positive
 orders and therefore pronounced the Powers of their Government to be as
 Complete and unconfined as before We had interposed. But we deemed it
 necessary to add that no Declaration of ours could deprive that opinion
 of its force and effect as an inevitable Conclusion drawn from the Princi-
 ples of truth and of its obligation on their Conduct as such of which you
 would be Judges.

19. The whole of this correspondence is particularly deserving of
 your attention and in order to bring it before you at one View We send
 Copies of the following Letters a Number in this Packet

Letter from Sir Eyre Coote	dated 3d February
Do. from the Select Committee	
at Fort St. George	dated Do
Our Letter to Sir Eyre Coote	dated 11th March
Do. to Fort St. George	Do
From Do	6th June
Our Reply to Do	4th July
From Do.	30th August
Our Reply to Do	3d October
Our's to Do.	14 Do.

20. We hope it is unnecessary for us to make any Remarks upon the Laborious and illiberal attack which is contained in their Letter of the 30th August upon the conduct of the General and the Proceedings of this Government, You, nay the whole World, will judge of our Actions by their effect. That we have had the Security and Welfare of the Carnatic most sincerely at heart cannot We trust be more clearly evinced than by the Wonderful exertions which we have made even to the prejudice of our own Necessities to Support and Defend that Country A particular Account of the Supplies of Different Kinds which have been sent to that place and Bombay since the War with Hyder will make a Number in the Packet

21. General Sir Eyre Coote after having suffered the most alarming attacks in his health and being Worn out with the fatigues of a hard and tedious Service upon the last Return of the Army to Cantonments was advised by his Physicians to try the expedient of a Sea Voyage as the only Chance for his Recovery, he accordingly embarked on the Medea Frigate and is come to this Place but Remains still in a very Weak State

22. Being informed that a Proposal had been made by Monsr Du Chemin Commander of the French Land Forces to Lord
 Consn 15th April Macartney of a Cartel for an exchange of Prisoners which his Lordship Declined to accede to, We immediately wrote to the President and Select Committee at Fort St George earnestly Stating the expediency of such an exchange which would not only Relieve us
 10th May. from the expensive and disagreeable burthen of Maintaining the Prisoners in our hands, but afford a Reinforcement to Sir Edward Hughes as most of the Men who had been taken by the French were Seamen belonging to the Hannibal and other Ships We believe that no further steps were taken to this effect and Monsr Suffren
 4 Sept the French Admiral has since delivered up all the English Prisoners to Hyder Ally, by whom we understand they are cruelly treated.

23 As the President and Select Committee at Fort St George from their local and daily information of the Operations of the Army in the Carnatic have it in their Power to furnish you with a more perfect detail of the last Campaign than is possible for us, We shall refer you Chiefly to the letters from that Presidency for an Account of this subject, stating only in a brief manner such occurrences as have been Reported to us

24. Monsr. Suffren with the French Fleet after the first engagement

with our fleet off Negapatam proceeded to Porto Novo where he landed his sick and Wounded Men together with a body of 1200 European land Forces and 800 Caffres. These Troops marched on the 9th of April
 Consn. 29th April under the Command of Monar Du Chomin who is since dead to attack Cuddalore which immediately Capitulated to them They have never actually taken the field to act in conjunction with Hyder hnt have Remained at Cuddalore endeavoring to Strengthen the Fortifications and to establish it as a place of Security hnt assistance and support have been given to them at different times by Hyder Ally tho so scantily that their Necessities have brought them to the greatest extremity of Distress and We believe their original Numbers are by this time very much Rednced.

25 Sir Eyre Coote having marched with the Army from Chinglepnt in the Middle of May last to raise the Sieges of Permacoll and Wandewash which the Enemy were before, was unfortunately prevented by Violent Rains from arriving early enough to Relieve the former which place surrendered to Hyder our Troops however came up with him and a general engagement ensued on the 2d of
 Consn. 4 July June in which Sir Eyre Coote had the honor of a Complete Victory he drove the Enemy from the Field of Battle and pursued them till they Crossed a River at 6 Miles distance. Had our Army been supported on this occasion by a few good Cavalry it might as Sir Eyre Coote declares have rendered the Defeat a most signal and useful one by enabling him to take possession of some of the Enemy's Guns.

26 On the 8th following the Packet Guard of our Army being advanced considerably beyond the Main body was unwarily led to follow some straggling parties of the Enemy and having been drawn to a sufficient distance it was suddenly surrounded by them and taken before it could Receive any support from the General.

27th. While the two Armies were thus engaged to the Southward the President and Select Committee took occasion to dispatch a small force with a Convoy of Provisions for the Relief of Vellore³ which
 Consn. 8th July fortunately arrived safe but on the Return of the party it was attacked by a considerable Detachment from Hyder and being too Weak to make any effectual Resistance the Officer Commanding it and most of the Men fell into the hands of the Enemy

28 Sir Eyre Coote not being able any longer to pursue his Operations at that time for want of Provisions was under the Necessity of Returning to the Mount. Towards the end of August he marched again and threw a further supply of 6 Months Provisions into the Garrison of Vellore, after which he came back without any Material Occurrence except the Surprise and Capture of a Convoy of Bullocks and Grain belonging to the Enemy by a Detachment sent from his Army to intercept them

29 After this the Army Still under the Command of Sir Eyre Coote proceeded Southward with a view to attack the French at Cuddalore. To prevent their being again obliged to fall back for want of Carriage for Grain

some Vessels were dispatched with a Quantity to attend the Motions of the Troops off Pondicherry. These Vessels were unfortunately detained by contrary Winds and could not Reach the Port so soon as they were expected there, for which Reason the Army, Already distressed for want of Provisions, were obliged to Retire without Performing the Service intended, which is therefore Postponed 'till after the Monsoon The Medea Frigate having left the other Vessels which could make no way against the Contrary Winds arrived at Pondicherry and finding the Army had Marched from thence Returned to Madrass

30 Among all the Difficulties which have combined to impede the Successful Operations of Sir Eyre Coote in the late Campaign none have been more immediately and severely felt than the want of sufficient Carriage for the Provisions of the Army This was so great a failing in every expedition that his whole attention and Contrivance were always Requisite to Convey only a few days supply for the fighting Men, and no distant march could be undertaken nor any considerable advantage pursued for want of that necessary Resource, For if he had ever left it to Chance he might not only have been disappointed in his hopes but the Consequences of such a disappointment in all probability would have been fatal to your Possessions

31. In our last We gave you a particular account of the Naval engagement between our Fleet Commanded by Admiral Sir Edward Hughes and that of the Enemy off Trincomalay on the 12th of April last We conceive that you will be more fully apprized of the Operations of the Fleet from the Admiral's Public Dispatches to the Secretary of State, nevertheless We shall continue the Narration of his Proceedings as far as we have any Account of them.

32 The St Charles and Rodney Packet which had arrived at Madrass during the absence of the Fleet upon the above
 Consn 4th July Service were ordered to join it at Trincomalay with a supply of Powder and other Ammunition but they fell in with the French and were Chased back to Madrass having with difficulty escaped being taken by throwing over board great part of the Stores and other things which were within Reach The Raikes, Resolution and Royal Charlotte Transports which Ships sailed from Tellicherry to come round with the St Carlos attempting to join the Admiral likewise fell in with the French Fleet and the two former were taken but the latter arrived safely at Trincomalay The Troops which they had brought out from England were previously landed on the Malabar Coast

33 We are concerned to inform you that the Fortitude and Yarmouth have also fallen into the Hands of the French The
 Consn 5 Aug former in her Way from this place to Madrass and the latter
 8 Do. in carrying Stores from thence to the Garrison of Negapatam

34. An unapplied Reflexion in Sir Edward Hughes's Letter of the 15th July seeming to admit a construction of a Charge of Neglect in the sailing orders granted to the Captain of the Fortitude, We thought it not

unbecoming in us to undeceive him by sending him a Copy of our Orders and for the same Reason We now send them a Number in this Packet.

35 When Sir Edward Hughes had Repaired his Fleet as Completely as possible at Trincomalay after the Action of the 12th April he proceeded to Negapatam to avail himself of a Windward Station the Enemy being then off Cuddalore On the 6th of July the French Squad Consn 8 July ron having approached to ours were met by it and a Close Engagement took place off Tranquebar, which lasted from eleven in the forenoon till one oClock. The Brilliant, a French 64 Gun Ship lost her Main Mast and the Severe another Ship of 64 Guns Struck to the Sultan but afterwards steered off into the Midst of their Fleet and on being demanded the next Day from Monsr Suffren he denied the Fact Asserting that she did not Strike but that the Haulyards of the Ensign Staff had been Shot away Sir Edward Hughes in his Letter to us declares that he gained so decided a Superiority over the Enemy in this Action that if the Wind had not Changed in the Critical manner in which it did whereby many of his Ships were paid Round he is of opinion that he could have taken some of their Line of Battle Ships but a part of those under his Command had suffered so much during the Action that they were in no Condition to pursue the Enemy Sir Edward Hughes therefore returned to Negapatam and the French to Cuddalore Our Loss upon this occasion was 77 Killed and 223 Wounded

36 After refitting the rigging of the Fleet at Negapatam Sir Edward Hughes being in great want of Ammunition and Stores came up to Madras where he anchored on the 20th July with all the Ships. In the mean time the Sceptre a 64 Gun Ship of Sir Richard Consn 5th August Bickerton's Fleet arrived at Madras and not meeting with the Fleet proceeded immediately with the St Carlos in hopes of joining it at Negapatam but as it was recently gone from thence they Returned and formed the Junction at Madras.

37 About this time it was conceived that the French having a Southern station might exert themselves to make an Attempt upon Trincomalay The Sceptre and Manmouth were therefore Detached with 200 Troops to Reinforce that Garrison, while the 26 Do. rest of the Fleet waited to Complete their Stores and Necessary Repairs at Madras. On the 10th of August the above two Ships Returned from their Expedition having seen the French Fleet standing to the Southward as they were coming out of the Harbour of Trincomalay

38 The Coventry Frigate from Bombay arrived at Madras during the Admiral's Stay there In her way round Ceylon She 6th Sept had a smart and Close Engagement with the Bellona Frigate of 32 Guns which was Cruizing from the French Fleet then at Anchor off Battacolo In the Action a Shot unluckily carried away the Helm of the Coventry and rendered her ungovernable at a time when it is most probable she would have taken the Bellona if her guns had continued still to bear upon the Enemy, who had apparently lost their commanding officer

and Ceased firing at this Instant in order to take Advantage of the Coventry's Situation to escape

39 The Medea Frigate with the concord a Prize taken by the 6th Sept. Sceptie arrived at Madiass also while the Fleet was there

40. On the 20th August the Admual sailed with the whole Fleet, except the Medea from Fort St George and meeting with faint Southerly Winds and Calms in his way down the Coast it was the 3d of September before he Reached Trincomalay On that Morning at Day-break he descried the French Fleet within the Harbour of Trincomalay and soon afterwards perceived French Colours hoisted in the Fort The Enemy had 15 Ships of the line having been reinforced by the Illustre and St Michelle under the Command of Monsr Bussy. They came out immediately on the appearance of our Squadron and Sir Edward Hughes perceiving their intention bore away to the Eastward in order to draw them off from the Harbour, as far as he could in hopes they would fall to leeward if they attempted to make it in their Return At half past 2 in the afternoon an Engagement began between the two fleets which was so well supported on our Side that the French Admiral's Ship lost her Main and Mizen Masts by the board, another Ship lost her Mizen Mast and a third her Fore and Mizen Top Masts and many of them appeared to be in other Respects very much damaged At 7 in the Evening they hauled their Wind but some of our Ships were found to be too much disabled to admit of Chasing them The French contriv[ed] as we believe to Return to Trincomalay, and Sir Edward Hughes came back to Madrass In this Action he lost 43 Men Killed and 277 Wounded

41. The Harbour of Trincomalay is a Place of so much Importance during the Monsoon when Ships cannot with safety lie off the Coast, that the French by making themselves Masters of it have not only avoi[ded] the disagreeable and Ruinous Necessity of being obliged to Return to the Islands with a Shattered Fleet, but are able to Weather the Monsoon in a Situation where they may greatly Molest the Trade if not entirely Command the Coast In order to prevent this Inconvenience as much as possible and to afford the Ships of his Majesty's Squadron a Secure Place to Anchor in during the present Season We wrote a Pressing Letter to the Admiral Urging the expediency of his Coming to Bengal which is now a Windward Station, and We sent Mr Ritchie your Marine Surveyor who is an experienced Person to Madrass to conduct his Majesty's Ships safely into the River which he Readily undertook to Perform upon being applied to for that purpose.

42. On the 15th of October which was two or three days before the arrival of our letter to the Admiral at Fort St George, A Violent Gale of Wind obliged the Fleet to put to Sea and the Admiral's Ship the Superb suffered the loss of all her Masts As soon as the Storm was over the Admiral Shifted his Flag to the Sultan and sent the Active Frigate back to Madrass to bring off several Officers and Men belonging to the Ships who had been left a Shore

Consn
November

intending as was believed to proceed with the whole Squadron to Bombay

According to a declaration which he had previously made
 3d. October to the President and Select Committee Commodore Sir
 November Richard Bickerton arrived at Madrass on the 20th October
 with the Ships under his Command consisting of the Gihralter Cumber
 land, Defence Africa and Inflexible together with the Convoy of India-
 men and Juno Frigate from Bombay The Active carried this intelligence
 to the Admiral and was likewise the bearer of our Letter above mentioned.
 Sir Richard dispatched the Juno immediately in quest of the Fleet and
 Continued Cruizing with the line of Battle Ships till the 24th when the
 Juno was observed to Return and after having spoke with the Commodore
 a Signal was made in obedience to which all the Ships of his Squadron
 Sailed to the Soothward.

43 Mr Botham a Member of the Council at Fort Marlborough was
 lately at this place having been depoted to Fort St. George and Bengal to
 Represent the Weak and Defenceless State of the Garrison of Fort Marl-
 borough from a Severe Misfortune sustained by the explosion of a Powder
 Magazine which was struck by lightning and the consequent destruction
 of the Arsenal with a Considerable Quantity of Military Stores which were
 in it he obtained from the Presidency of Fort St. George a dispatch of the
 greatest part of the Articles which were immediately Required at Fort
 Marlborough and Completed his Indent from our Stores.

44 The intention of Mr Botham to return to Fort Marlborough
 opened to us a fit occasion of employing a Confidential Person of Consi-
 derable Rank and experience in your Service to make overtures of Friend-
 ship to the King of Achcen² according to the orders of your Secret Committee
 We therefore desired the Services of this Gentleman and Accordingly gave
 him a Letter and Credentials to the King with a Suitable present. After
 repeating our earnest desire as well as that of the British Nation to be
 upon terms of the Strictest Amity with that Prince We Requested that he
 would favor this disposition and allow a Commercial Establishment to
 be formed in his Territories to which a Resident should be appointed by
 us in order to promote the Connection and intercourse between our Res-
 pective Countries. If Mr Botham shall meet with Success in this Attempt
 he will of course advise you of his Proceedings. We shall also Report to
 you any information which We may Receive from him

45 In obedience to the orders of your Secret Committee We have
 laid a Prohibition on the Exportation of Saltpetre from
 Consn. 8th July this Country Soon after this order took effect we were
 led into a Correspondence with Mr Bio Governor of the Danish Settle-
 ment of Fredrichsnagore Respecting the Rights of his Nation to a free
 Trade in this Article. We had made an offer to him of exemption for the
 quantity granted to the Danish Company amounting by our extraordinary
 indulgence this year to 16000 Maunds. He replied that the Number of
 Danish Ships arrived and expected would Require a much greater quantity
 than the above to Ballast them and begged to have liberty to export all

that had been collected in the Danish Settlement for exportation amounting to 27,000 Maunds, adding that it was in our power if we thought proper to prevent the importation of any more

46. We did not immediately grant his Request, but Represented that the order of Government would be rendered Negatory if individuals were allowed to evade it thro' the Channel of a Foreign Settlement that the Quantity of Saltpetre Annually allowed to the Danish Company out of the produce Monopolized by this Government was an indulgence supposed to be equal to their Necessities and while the Monopoly existed and he partook of it any Private Purchases were illicit We nevertheless left it to his Option to export the Quantity he desired and Relinquish his Pretensions to the indulgence in future while the prohibition lasted or to enjoy this indulgence with the Right of exporting that and no more He Prefer[r]ed the first alternative and we gave our orders accordingly.

47. We think it necessary to inform you of the death of the Nabob
23d & 30th Sept Nudjiff Cawn which happened about the 1st of April last The Competitors for his Succession at the Court of the Mogul are many and for a time the party of Mirza Shuffee Cawn¹ prevailed, but he was driven out of the City of Delhi, by Letafut Ally Cawn⁵ Assisted by one Paul⁶ a French man, his adherents in this City dispersed and himself obliged to Fly for safety He returned again shortly afterwards joined by Mahomed Beg Amdany⁷ with his Force from Joynagur and having seduced his Chief opponents into his power he secured them and marched towards the Royal palace

48 In order to prevent any attack from the Western Frontier of the
Consns 6th, 12th, Vizier's Dominions which the unsettled state of his Coun-
23d Sept. try seemed to invite and to preserve the Peace of those Districts which from the general confusion required the appearance of a Respectable Military Force to keep the Zamindars in awe, We thought it necessary to detach a Force consisting of 5 Regiments of Sepoys and one Company of Artillery from Dinapore into the Countries situated beyond the line of the Vizier's ancient hereditary Dominions. We have given this Command to Colonel Sir John Cumming who has particular instructions from us for his conduct in the execution of it

49 You will observe by the Proceedings Noted in the Margin that
23rd Sept. our own Conviction of Mr Middleton's Remissness in his duty as Resident at the Vizier's Court obliged us to Remove him from that Station and to appoint in his Room Mr Bristow, whom you had Nominated to the Office Mr Bristow
Sect Consn 26th Sept has accordingly left the Presidency on his Way to Lucknow, and we have furnished him with particular Instructions for his public Conduct as our Minister

50 You will likewise find upon our Records that in consequence
Sect. Consn 7th Sept. of extraordinary Complaints preferred to us from the Acting Minister of the Vizier and from other good Authority of the Arbitrary and unwarrantable Power

Assumed and exercised by Mr Richard Johnson Assistant to the Resident in the Absence of his principal We thought it proper to Recall him within 48 hours from the Receipt of our orders to the Presidency

51 We have never received any Accounts from the late Resident or his Assistant of Disturbances which some time since prevailed in the Vizier's Country at Darranagur of the disaffection of Almass Ally Cawn the Vizier's Principal Zemindar who had then deserted with a considerable Body of Men nor of many other matters of great importance which it was their duty to have Reported to us, but as we shall have further to say upon the Subject of their Recall, We beg you will Suspend your Judgement till you hear it.

Fort William
The 10th November 1782
[Per *Lively*]

We have the honor to be Honble. Sirs,
Your Most faithful Humble Servants
Warren Hastings/John Macpherson

8

LETTER DATED 4 DECEMBER 1782

Growing discontentment among the Company's native soldiers in the Carnatic—Sir Eyre Coote asked to resume Command of the operations in the Carnatic—complaints of the Nawab of Carnatic against Lord Macartney

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble. Sirs,

1st. We have written to you very fully from this Department in our letter of the 10th Ultimo

2d Mr Stables took the Oaths and his seat at this Board on the 11th Ultimo

3d. The Nerbudda which had been dispatched in April last with a Packet to be forwarded to you by way of Bussora is returned from thence but brings only a triplicate Copy of Advices from your Secret Committee upto the 22d February last

4th. In our Proceedings noted in the margin you will find two letters from Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote addressed to us since his return here which we think very deserving of your perusal and attention. In the first which is dated the 15th he enters fully into the state of the Army serving in the Carnatic and the measures which appeared necessary to render its operation against the Enemy successful in the ensuing Campaign as well as to bring the War with Hyder to the most favorable issue The last letter dated only two days afterwards contains Copy of one which the General had just received from Major General Stuart whom he left in Command of the Army at Madras giving a

dismal reverse to the former prospect. It represents the alarming discontent which had taken place among the Native Troops in consequence of the dreadf[ul] scarcity of Grain caused by the effects of the late violent storm at Madrass and the very scanty allowance which was delivered to the men notwithstanding some importations had been received since that fatal event

5th Such symptoms of sedition in Troops employed upon a severe and arduous service in which their necessities could not always be provided against and the difficulty of supplying them might increase, the Strongest pledge for their fidelity was the attachment and confidence which they might repose in their Commanding Officer We were certain that the circumstances and novelty of General Stuart's Command could not insure that Zealous good will and dependence from the native Troops which their long experience of Sir Eyre Coote's distinguished abilities, activity and success had so justly and firmly impressed upon them we thought it our duty therefore to write immediately to Sir Eyre Coote, ill as he was, to entreat that he would again proceed to Fort St. George to resume the Command of the Army in the Carnatic, well knowing the effect which his personal presence or even the expectation of it would have upon the minds of the Sepoys at the same time we had no doubt of the General's Zeal and anxious readiness to complete that important Service to his Country which he had so chearfully undertaken and gloriously persevered into the last extremity his Reply to our letter justly marks the propriety of these sentiments and will we hope produce the desired effect

6th. Indeed we understand but only from private authority that the supplies of Grain since received into the Garrison of Madrass and an encrease made in the allowance served out to the Sepoys has since the date of General Stuart's letter rendered them perfectly quiet

7th The extraordinary exertions of this Government in the relief and support of your possessions on the Coast appeared to us a fit subject to be stated in reply to the first letter from Sir Eyre Coote he was fully acquainted with the former extent and effect of them, we therefore began our calculation only from the Commencement of the present Season for the dispatch of Vessels to Madrass and took into the account the following remittances made since the 1st of August last including a space of less than four Months Vizt

In Treasure	Rs. 24,71,200-0-0
In Grain and Provisions	8,36,930-0-0
In Powder and Military Stores	2,14,933-0-0
By Bills drawn from thence	5,89,880-0-0
Ditto remitted to Ditto	64,800-0-0
Shroffs ditto Ditto	9,93,001-0-0

Rs 51,70,744-0-0

8th We are still continuing these remittances by every possible effort, indeed the amount of them is likely to be increased by the Monopoly made at Madrass of all the Rice imported there which is to be seized on the

Compan[y's] Account and paid for at a very advanced rate by Bills upon this Government. This measure was thought necessary by the Government there for the immediate relief of that Settlement and we consequently resolved to Freight no more Vessels with Grain on the Company's account in order to leave the exportation from hence entirely free to individuals but we shall persevere to the very last in our endeavors to save and maintain your Establishment on the Coast of Coromandel which we deem of such essential consequence to the British Interests in India that no possible means should be left unattempted to protect them from the danger of such powerful Enemies as we have at this time to Cope with.

9th We have received a Letter from the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George dated the 30th Ultimo
2d Novr acquainting us that Colonel Humberston with 600 European Troops two Regiments of Travencore Sepoys and a body of irregulars composing a Force altogether of 25 000 Men was advancing from Tillicherry to possess himself of the pass of Palliacherry and that Colonel Lang who commanded at Negapatam had taken the Field with the king's Troops who were there and 3000 Sepoys which had joined him from Tanjore

10th We are sorry to inform you that Colonel Horne who was appointed to the Command at Negapatam previous to Colonel Lang was unfortunately taken by the French in the Indus Schooner with a quantity of Stores which he was Carrying with him to that Garrison and sent to Mauritius the loss of this Gallant Officer is a severe Stroke to the Public Service and we lament it the more as officers of his rank and experience are much wanted in the Army

11th The President and Select Committee at Fort St. George since the arrival of the reinforcements of men brought by Sir Richard Bickerton's Fleet have come to the Resolution of returning the Bengal Detachment of Europeans. They likewise intend to make Detachments to Bombay for the Service of the projected attack upon Hyder's Dominions on that side and to Masullipatam and Negapatam for the security of those Garrisons.

12th. In our letter of the 15th July we mentioned that the Nabob Walla Jah had referred to us complaints¹ against Lord Macartney's Conduct towards him We have lately Received from Syed Assem Cawn the Nabob's Minister at this place two particular Representations on this Subject which we mean to compare with what the Nabob himself has written and to desire that Sir Eyre Coote will be pleased to look over them and to inform us whether any of the alligations are consistent with his knowledge of the Facts after which we shall be better judges if it may be necessary to take any and what further Notice of them at present we have only to enclose Copies of these Representation[s] for your information.

13th You will find a Letter from General Stilbert entered in our
11 Novr Proceedings which contains a proposed disposition of the Forces attached to this Presidency for the better defence of these provinces against any attempt from our Enemies by Sea in case they should take occasion of the absence of Sir Edward Hughes with the

English Fleet if he is really gone to Bombay, to make a descent in these parts.

14th We Submitted this plan to Sir Eyre Coote for his Sentiments upon it and shall advise you of any measures which we may resolve to adopt in consequence

15th We have received Letters from Mr Bristow since he has taken charge of his Station as Resident at the Vizier's Court, containing some accounts of the State of that Country but promising to write to us more Particularly on that Subject shortly.

16th We have received by remittances from Mr. Middleton immediately previous to his departure from Lucknow, Bills of Exchange on the Presidency amounting to Calcutta Sicca Rupees 24,31,237-10-6 and from Mr Bristow since that period further Bills on the same account amounting to Calcutta Sicca Rupees 5,41,666-10-6 We by no means approved of the transaction of Mr Middleton in mortgaging the Receipts from the assigned Countries to obtain these remittances immediately from the Shroffs but as we mean to enter into an investigation of the Conduct of Mr. Johnson which is blended with that of Mr. Middleton in the management of the affairs at Lucknow we wish not to anticipate any information which it may be necessary to communicate to you respecting them On this account and in Justice to Mr Johnson who has specially solicited us to postpone the report of our proceedings against him to you till he has an opportunity of vindicating himself We enclose a Copy of his letter and request that you will not form any opinion to his prejudice on what has passed, but suspend your judgment upon his Conduct 'till the proceedings in this enquiry shall be completely before you.

Fort William,
the 4th December 1782
[Per *Lively*]

We have the honor to be Honble Sirs,
Your Most faithfull Humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/John Macpherson/
John Stables

9

LETTER DATED 30 JANUARY, 1783

Death of—Hardar Ali Khan views of the Governor General and Council on the allegations made by the Nawab of Carnatic against Lord Macartney—Sir Eyre Coote invested with full powers in the Carnatic—responsibility for commencing hostilities against the Marathas—allegations of the Bombay government regarding war with the Marathas

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs, of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

1 Our last address to You was by the *Lively* Packet under Date the 4th December a Copy is herewith transmitted

2 Deeming it of consequence to give you the earliest possible information of an event of so much importance to your interests in India as the death of Hyder Ally Cawn, We dispatch the Fox Packet for that purpose. By the repeated and confirmed accounts which We have received from Fort St. George it appears that he died between the 4th and 7th of December Meer Kurreem his Second Son was upon the Spot and remained with Mahomed Ally one of Hyder's Generals in command of the main Army Tippoo Sahob the eldest Son having been detached against Colonel Humberston who had Advanced with his Corps to Reconnoitre [sic] and if Practicable to make an Attempt on the Pass of Paliacacherry leading into the Combitoor Country was not returned to his Father's Army on the 23d December the date of our last Accounts from it.

3 In the meantime Colonel Humberston finding that he could make no impression on the Fort of Pallacacherry without his heavy Artillery which he had left behind him and having received Orders from the Presidency of Bombay to return to Calcut he Proceeded to carry those orders into execution. The Baggage of the Army in its retreat being left unprotected was Attacked by Tippoo Saheb and some small loss sustained on our side in the beginning of November On the 24th of that Month Colonel Macleod Arrived at Calcut and took the Command from Colonel Humberston, Having posted the Army in a strong situation at Panany he was attacked on the 28th in the Morning by Tippoo with a large Force which after a long and close Contest was defeated and 200 of the Enemy Killed upon the Field Tippoo immediately retreated Across a River at 10 Miles distance. After the Action Colonel Macleod was Reinforced by near 300 of the King's Troops from Madras

4. We have since received information that Tippoo Saheb Arrived in his late Father's Camp on the 26th of December

5 By advices from Bombay of the 14th November General Mathews was immediately to be detached from that Place with a Reinforcement of 400 Europeans and 1000 Grenadier Sepoys to take the chief Command and We learn that he actually embarked with them on the Africa on the 12th of December In the mean time our Remittance of Bills to the Amount of 15 Lacks of Rupees had Arrived at Surat and been duly honored.

6 The Main Body of Hyder's Army Marched from Chittoor after the death of Hyder and was Arrived at Arcot on the 23d December in its Way to Amu The French Troops at Cuddalour consisting of 1500 Europeans and 3000 Sepoys with 40 Guns of Different Sizes left that place about the same time and by Advices dated 20th December had Marched as far as Gingee on the Road to Arcot

7 The Army at Fort St. George now under Major General James Stuart had been Ordered to March against the Enemy but on Account of the dismission of its followers the Removal of the Bullocks attached to it and the great detachments of Europeans it did not appear probable that it could be speedily reassembled and in a state to Act. We own it as a testimony of justice to the Commander in Chief to Mention that this separation

of the Army was made in direct opposition to his Sentiments and Advice declared in a letter to the President and Select Committee and instruction to General Stuart, and we are confidently of Opinion that if he had not been obliged on Account of the bad state of his health to quit the Coast, the Precautions which he would have taken to keep the Army together and in a state for immediate Service would have enabled it to take the Field on the instant News of Hyder's death and either to have totally dispersed Hyder's Army, discontented with long and foreign Service and disperited [*sic*] by the recent loss of their leader, or at least to have Prevented a junction between them and the French and probably Obliged the latter to surrender at descretion, for in such a case they would have had no resource

8 Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote has declared his Intention of returning to the Command of the army in the Carnatic and of embarking for the purpose on the Medea hourly expected for Madras We cannot sufficiently applaud the Zeal which under the infirmities of a constitution broken by the severities of his last Campaign has animated him to this Resolution We repeat the Declaration Which we have already Made in our Records that we place our whole Reliance on him for a happy and speedy Termination of the War, and entertain the most sanguine Hopes that he will Accomplish it.

9 To remove by the only means in our power the obstacles to his Return and to Prevent their effects on his future operations it was necessary for us to exercise the special authority¹ which you had deligated to us over the other Presidencies with an unrestricted Injunction of Obedience to our Orders for taking the lead in all the Military and political Operations of the Present War First in order to settle the Government of the Carnatic on a solemn Appeal Made to us by the Nabob and secondly to secure to Sir Eyre Coote the independant and uninterrupted conduct of all Military Operations dependant on him and if possible the Zealous and liberal Assistance and Support of the Presidency of Fort St. George from whose Measures he had heretofore Complained of insurmountable difficulties and Obstructions.

10 To explain the first of these Acts it will be Necessary to Recur to the Memorials delivered to us by Syed Ahsun Cawn the Nabob's Minister of which you were furnished with Copies by our last dispatch you will there find that the Nabob through his Minister bitterly complained that after having transferred the Assignment of all his Revenues in the Carnatic to Lord Macartney for the Service of the War with the single reservation of his Sovereignty in the ostensible confirmation of the persons whom Lord Macartney might chuse for the Collection of the Revenues Lord Macartney first eluded the Observation of this condition on a fictitious plea, and afterwards wholly disregarded it.

11. It was a duty so very repugnant to our inclination that we had endeavored to avoid it by persuading Syed Ahsun Cawn who was deputed to this Government by the Nabob for the purpose of preferring his Complaints to us, to withdraw his first Memorial and to suspend his Claim to the Interposition of our Authority which we fear'd to exercise in so desperate

a State of the War and which We hoped would become unnecessary but finding our hopes unavailing and a Repetition of the Nabob's grievances having been forced upon us were under the disagreeable Necessity of receiving the original and at the same time a Subsequent Memorial from the Nabob's Minister

12 At this time the Nabob's Situation added to the effect which it had on the Minds of other Country Powers to the Prejudice of our good Faith and the important Crisis of Affairs in the Carnatic all combined to draw from us that act of Justice to the Nabob which the delicacy of his Situation and the vindication of our National honour have produced

13 We thought it Necessary to confine our enquiries to this Single Charge because it required and was the only one that required, our decision upon it. For the rest We shall probably for such is our wish furnish You simply with the Materials of Evidence carefully and fairly collated for your judgement upon them but without offering any Opinion of our own

14 Our Proceedings in this investigation are so full that we think it unnecessary to enter into a detail of them in this Place but rather chuse to refer You to a complete perusal of them for the grounds and the impartial justice of our conclusions, trusting that the evidence and facts therein recorded contain such plain and decided proofs of the truth of the Allegations which state the infraction complained of that You cannot fail to approve and confirm our Resolution founded on such a basis. If there is any defect it is in the Proceeding of the President and Select Committee which we had not Received to a later date than the 16th January 1782 but even these whatever they may be cannot alter the Notore of those Facts which were already proved and even avowed on the Most authentic testimony

15 The Treaty of Agreement of 2d April 1781st was only conditional and Subject to your confirmation it was not forced upon the Nabob but entered into at the Particular solicitation of his Minister and the advantages which it secured to the Company were voluntarily conceded on his Part. The appointment of a Resident to his Court to see it carried into effect was also his request, we will confess that we the more readily acquiesced in this Measure from the Recent instance of a breach of our Orders in the Government of Fort St George which might have been of dangerous tendency and which actually obliged us to Remove their President Mr Whitehill from the Government as the only means of Preventing its ill effects, and we may add to this Motive our want of the Requisite confidence in his Successor not from the time of Lord Macartney's arrival at Madras in June 1781 though We could not recall our Resident without giving offence to the Nabob We Maintained no separate intercourse with him but wished to leave the Accomplishment of the Treaty and the Management of every internal Arrangement of the Carnatic which Might be settled with the Nabob under the stipulation of the Treaty to the exclusive Negotiation and conduct of the President and Select Committee

16 In this disposition we Wrote to them fully and confidentially

on the 26th December 1781 and afterwards gave our hearty approbation and concurrence to the Assignment of the Revenue of the Carnatic for the exigencies of the War which had been received by Lord Macartney from the Nabob in virtue of the Treaty, sincerely applauding the address and Ability of his Lordship in obtaining it.

17. As a further proof of our ready and entire disposition to support the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George in their endeavour to derive the full benefit of the Revenues granted by this Assignment we must inform You that We strongly approved their appointment of a Committee to superintend and Manage the Receipts and disbursements of them and upon their complaining to us, of a Secret influence in the Durbar which was likely to destroy the effect of their endeavours to this end we expressed our regret that they should have suffered any condition even of delicacy towards the Nabob or Attention for those feelings which it might "be Natural for him to retain for the interests of the Carnatic which were still eventually his to restrain them from availing themselves of it with an effect as complete as the desperate Necessity which alone could warrant their having exacted such a concession inevitably demanded."

18. We should still have been forward to give our sanction to their conduct and to support it in the just and complete execution of the Powers granted by the Assignment had We not found that the express conditions of the Assignment had been violated, the Nabobs rights shamefully infringed and our Approbation and Authority quoted for such acts by a strained misconstruction of our words written upon a different Subject Under this impression we could not hesitate to vindicate our own honour by a formal enquiry into the Facts and to grant that redress to the Nabob which the Case evidently demanded both on the score of Public Opinion and formal Justice for we had positive evidence before us that the Indignity which this most ancient and faithful Ally of the Company suffered from the Privation of his Rights and Authority had disgraced our good faith in the Opinion of a Neighbouring State, and strong Presumption [*sic*] evidence that the substitution of Lord Macartney's Personal authority for that of the legal and ostensible Sovereign of the Carnatic whose complaint, and situation could not be concealed from the world would impress all the Powers of India with a decided Idea of our breach of Treaty or unjust usurpation of his Government which would Naturally deter them from any connection with the English and Ruin the influence We derived from their good Opinion and respect for our Sincerity On such grounds we thought it incumbent on us to render some Public and Notorious act of Justice to the Nabob and therefore declared the Assignment, the conditions of which had been broken by Lord Macartney, void and the Management and property of the Revenues held under that Assignment, again the Right of the Nabob.

19 As the Nabob had Pledged himself in case the Management of

the Revenues should be restored to him that during the continuance of the War he would Realize and Pay into the Company's Treasury one third more Money than Lord Macartney had Collected from the Country in the same space of time and also increase the supplies of Bullocks and Provisions to the Army by one third more than the Present quantity giving Soncar Security³ for the performance of these terms, and Syed Ahsun Caun having declared himself possessed of full Powers to conclude such an agreement with the Government We accordingly Received from him a New

obligation to that effect Copy of which will be found in
13th January the Proceedings.

20 After the termination of the War the Nabob is to Pay to the Company 12 Lacks of Pagodas Per Annum 7 Lacks whereof are to be appropriated to the discharge of his Debt to them and 5 Lacks to his Private Creditors And in case of any failure in the performance of these Stipulations he agrees that the Nabob Wala Jaw shall submit the collections and appropriation of the Revenues of the Carnatic for the purpose of discharging his Public Debts to such Mode of arrangement as the Court of Directors or this Government shall direct.

21 Upon the whole you will find we have avoided entering into the Disputes between the Nabob and the Resident and Select Committee at Fort St. George further than we were compelled to do upon the Grounds of our constitutional Powers and the Necessary support of Public Treaties and engagements for which all the states of India Naturally looked to the Honour and Power of the controlling Government but the Presidency of Fort St. George have entered more into a personal Crimination of the Nabob than the Merits of his accusations or a justification of their own Conduct, for in their letter to us of the 5th December 1781 they go as far back as the siege of Trichonopoly by the Regent of Mysore to Account for Hyder's Resentment against him and Attribute the indisposition of the Marattas "to the frequent support given to the Nabob in subduing and sometimes as is asserted extirpating Hindoo Princes from the Kistna to Cape Commorin under the odious Name of conquest' they also look to a distant and most improbable Situation to find out grounds of accusation against the Nabob and with a degree of Rancour in their Style draw such extraordinary conclusions to his Prejudice that we think their letter particularly worthy of your observation and therefore Recommend it to Your perusal.

22 With regard to the other regulation of Sir Eyre Coote as the Indispensable condition of his return to Fort St. George being satisfied from past experience of the Necessity for his clearing it and considering him as the only Instrument capable of retrieving your affairs by a successful course of Military Operations in the Carnatic we resolved to invest him with every power and authority which he could derive from this Government both for forming the Army in the Carnatic and employing its services with effect for the general Cause.

23 On a former occasion when We gave it as our opinion that the

present Commander in Chief should be allowed a full and unparticipated command and Authority in all Military Operations and recommended this line of Conduct to the Presidency of Fort St. George in terms of the greatest delicacy and tenderness they received and construed our letter as a positive Command and accordingly declared to him that they resigned over all the powers, authorities and responsibilities in the Conduct of the War, He nevertheless complained of constant difficulties and obstructions in his Operations Such having been the effect of a cautious and temporizing Conduct on our Part & the present crisis of affairs requiring more decided and active measures, We resolved to repeat our former recommendations in the stile of orders, warranted by the authority which we possess from the 3d Paragraph of your commands to that Presidency, dated 11th April 1781 ; and we have the pleasure to add, that Sir Eyre Coote is satisfied with these determinations

24. In two further instances, we have also been obliged to interpose the controuling authority of this Government over the conduct of the President and Select Committee at Fort St George the urgency of the cases are so fully apparent, that we doubt not our conduct will meet with your hearty approval. Upon the death of Bazalut Jung, the Zemindar of Guntoor, whose Country, by the Treaty of 1768 with Nizam Ally Cawn, was to revert to the Company, the President and Select Committee, as we understood from private authority, had entered into negotiations of some kind with Yestestram Jung, the Jagueerdar of Neermull, a Vassal of Nizam Ally, in actual rebellion against his Sovereign This measure had probably for it's object an intention of securing possession of Guntoor, in opposition to the secret wishes and endeavours of Nizam Ally , and was likely to be the cause of a rupture with him.

25 On a previous intimation made to us by the President and Select Committee, of certain overtures received by them from Yestestram Jung, we strongly discouraged them from giving any attention or countenance to his proposals , the acceptance of which would be a direct violation of the Treaty with Nizam Ally Cawn , and we now repeated the same, but in the terms of express prohibition added to this, we were informed, by a private communication of General Stuart to Sir Eyre Coote, that a considerable body of Forces had been ordered to rendezvous near the Frontiers of Nizam Ally Cawn's Dominions , which he could not but construe into an implied and fixed determination in the Government of Fort St George, to enforce their design of taking possession of the Guntoor Circar by arms We thought it highly necessary to prevent the pursuance of any acts or discussions, which might involve us at this time in a war with that Nabob, who had acknowledged himself, and even boasted of being the chief instigator of the Confederacy formed against the English, and had only been diverted from acts of declared hostility by great address and good management We therefore recommended to the President and Select Committee, that the Company's right, in this instance, should be suffered to lie dormant, until it could be asserted with effect and safety ,

or made use of as an instrument of negotiation, for adjusting our other depending concerns with Nizam Ally

27 Mr Anderson has lately advised us of the decease of Nur Sing Hyder Ally a principal Vackeel or Agent with the Maratta State, then at the Court of Madajee Scindia on the 19th December This man by his Powers abilities and intrigues was the Chief instrument in exacting the late general confederacy of the Powers of Hindoestan against the English We esteem his Death, happening so immediately after that of his Master a most fortunate event for the Company's interests, and likely to Operate forcibly in the Speedy accomplishment of a general and permanent Peace.

28. Madajee Scindia has himself written a letter to the Governor General dated before it was possible for him to be acquainted with the circumstance of Hyder's death containing such firm assurances of his determination to use his influence and exertions to obtain the immediate and final ratification of the Treaty and of his own personal resolution to abide by and support it as We think considering the cautious part which he has ever observed even in making verbal promises if he had any doubt in performing them is a strong indication of his Sincerity

29 The Governor General has just received a letter from Mr Anderson dated 14th January which declares that Bow Bucksby had that morning waited on him from Sindia to Notify the final Ratification of our general Treaty of Peace with the Maratta State which was arrived from Poona whence it had been dispatched on the 24th December and that it was to be formally Exchanged with Sindia on the first auspicious day

30 We have just received from the President and Select Committee at Bombay by the Hawke an extract of their letter to You of the 8th November to which they refer for a reply to ours addressed to them on the 4th of June Preceding.

31 We think it unnecessary to take up your time in vindicating our Opinion or Conclusions on Measures which Never took place and of course only existed in Speculation but there is one point in the letter above Mentioned which we cannot pass over without exposing it to your particular observation

32. In the 67th Paragraph they have Made use of the following Words As to the point whether this Government or theirs were the authors of the Maratta War as the whole of the Proofs on either side are already upon Record at the time the Facts happened and cannot be altered or affected by subsequent Argument You will form Your Judgment from Facts. Had they left the Matter here we should have joined in with them and been very well satisfied to rest by the issue of it but as they have thought proper to affirm in Consequence of our calling upon them to explain their Assertion "*that the Maratta War was entered upon by our express Orders*" that this assertion was grounded on the Orders Contained in our letter of the 14th September 1770 We recur'd [*sic*] to that letter and beg Your Particular attention to it because you will find that it was only Written to advise them of our Orders to general Goddard

then acting as Our Public Minister requiring him to demand a Categorical Answer from the Court of Poona whether they would agree to the terms which he had proposed to them for a Renewal of Peace, but it was Written above Six Months after the defeat of the Bombay Army at Worgaum and could not therefore be considered as Authority for Commencing hostilities of which that event was an unfortunate Consequence.

33 The Truth is that as early as December 1777 Proposals were made by a Party in the Poona Government thro' Mr Mostyn to support the claim of Ragoba which the President and Select Committee were of Opinion should be accepted and when this Party had lost their influence and was no longer able to afford any support to the Cause the Presidency of Bombay resolved to Carry the plan into execution by means of their own Force and Precipitately engaged in Hostilities against the Marattas before our detachment which had marched to their Assistance could be brought to Cooperate with their Forces.

34 The extraordinary letters and declarations of General Goddard at the Period of his Resignation in September also call upon us to Request Your Attention to the Circumstances of his Real Situation and to the true Motives which influenced us in appointing Colonel Morgan to the Command of the Bengal Detachment after it had remained during the whole Course of the War under General Goddard's separate charge and authority We trust implicitly to your Candid and impartial Judgement for deciding with what unmerited Acrimony he has thought Proper to charge us with Casting reflections upon his Conduct and Pronouncing his demerit in instances where neither were implied and we leave it also to the Candour of the Honourable Court to determine what General Goddard's Reasons must have been for such an Extraordinary Remonstrance.

35. By letters lately Received from Ganjam we are informed that the French Fleet consisting of 10 Sail of the line which had been over at Acheen made it's appearance there on the 8th instant supposed to be under the Command of Monsr Souffrein no Attempts had been made as late as the 14th to effect a landing but the ships continued cruizing in detached Parties sometimes to the Northward and sometimes to the Southward with a view to intercept and destroy the Trade to the Coast and on that day all sailed to the Southward

36 We have every reason to apprehend that one of your Indiamen which is supposed to be the Blandford, Captain Pegou has fallen into their hands, but we are happy to inform you that the following ships are now safe in this River Vizt.

Resolution	Kent	
Hinchinbrook	Warren Hastings	
Worcester	Alfred	
Norfolk	Dutton	
Major	Latham	
Calcutta	Nottingham	} Transports
Ganges	Ann & Amelia	

1 12th July

1 5th September

1 6th Do enclosing Copy of a Letter written under the

same Date to the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George

2 We addressed you a short Letter on the 10th Ultimo which we dispatched in Triplicate over Land to inform you of the final Ratification of the Treaty with the Maratta State which was signed at Poona on the 20th of December and the Counterparts of it formally and publicly interchanged between Madajee Sindia, and Mr Anderson on the 24th of February We have caused printed Copies of it thus ratified to be made in the English and Persian Languages, and transmit 25 of them a Number in this Packet

3 After the Interchange had taken Place Madajee Sindia thought it necessary to make and require some Explanations of particular Passages to obviate any Misunderstandings hereafter The Treaty signed by the Peshwa had undergone some Alterations, but of no Consequence These were pointed out to Madajee Sindia, who ascribed them entirely to the Carelessness of the Copyist at Poona, and declared that the original Treaty made by him should be consulted in Cases of Discussion

4 In reply to those Points which were stated by Madajee Sindia, we resolved and empowered Mr Anderson to communicate to him our Resolutions that he might be assured of our fullest and firmest Intention to abide by and preserve inviolate every Article of the Treaty To regard him as the sole Guarantee, and in that Character to support him in his Endeavors to frustrate every Attempt which should be made by any Persons whomsoever to violate it Which Assurances the Governor General has repeated to him by Letter

That we consented to two Propositions made by him viz.

"1st That the English and Maratta Governments do mutually agree, not to afford any Refuge to Chiefs Merchants or other Persons, who shall hereafter fly for Protection to either from the Territories of the other

2ndly That the 11th Article of the treaty concerning the Intercourse of Shipping be explained to mean according to former Custom (Moojeeb Saobek Dustoor) ¹

5 We wrote to the President and Select Committee of Bombay desiring them to carry the different Articles of the Treaty, which depended on their Execution of them literally and punctually into Effect and directed Mr Anderson to offer to proceed himself or to depute his Brother to Witness the Performance of them by that Government.

6. We thought it the more necessary to convey these Injunctions to the President and Select Committee at Bombay in the most peremptory and positive Language and to propose the above Method of witnessing their Effect because we had just received a Letter from that Presidency suggesting Proposals highly incompatible with the Treaty and founded we suppose on

6th Mar

10 Do.

6th March

the Idea that it would never take Place, altho' actually depending , for making advantageous Exchange of Territory with the Marattas a Circumstance, which if the Marattas received any Intimation or Suspicion of, would immediately raise Doubts of our Good Faith on their Minds, which in this early Stage of our Connection might produce the worst Consequences, and cannot therefore be too cautiously guarded against

7 At Madajee Sindia's Request, we likewise desired the President of Bombay, to restore to the Marattas, as nearly as possible all the Guns and Rakillas, or Wall Pieces taken in Bassein and Arnolla, which should be still remaining in those Places, or had not been destroyed

8 We further resolved "that the Governor General be requested in his Letter to Madajee Sindia to assure him that it was the Intention of this Government, in granting him the Sunnud for the Possession of Broach, to make it free and unconditioned in Testimony of their Respect and Esteem for him, and in no Manner dependant on the Treaty That they did not know till this Instant by a Letter from Mr Anderson, that he had retained the Sunnud in his own Hands, and that they impute this Circumstance to the Delicacy of Madajee Sindia, in his Forbearance of his own Claims, while the Public were in suspense, which they are fully warranted in making, from the various Traits of his Conduct manifested throughout the Negociation, and particularly his declining any written Promise of the Sunnud from Mr Anderson upon the original Conclusion of the Treaty" and we immediately directed the President and Select Committee at Bombay to put him in full Possession of all the Rights granted by the Sunnud

9. As we cannot so well convey to you a full and proper Idea of the Obstacles and Difficulties, which were raised to the final Interchange of the Treaty, after it had undergone our mutual Ratification, as by a direct Reference to Mr Anderson's last letters which explain the different Interests and Endeavors of Nizam Ally Cawn and Moodajee Boosla in particular besides those of the other Chiefs of the Maratta State in various Circumstances, which are confirmed by Information from those Quarters, We enclose Copies of the Letters for your Perusal

10 Madajee Scindia himself has also written to the Governor General, ascribing their Delay of this Formality to the violent Opposition, which he had to cope with, from the Jealousy and Dissatisfaction of the other Chiefs, but assuring him that since he had surmounted them he should now enter most heartily and sincerely into the Accomplishment of the Stipulations of it A Copy of this Letter makes a Number in the Packet and merits your Attention because it is conceived in his natural Style, and we have already observed to you, that Sindia is very reserved in all his Correspondence

11. It appears that Sindia, in pursua[nce] of his Promise, wrote to Tippoo Saheb a Letter on the 27 February Copy of which is enclosed, requiring "if he regarded and desired the friendship and Amity of the Paishwa, that he must act agreeably to the Tenor of the Treaty, concluded between him and the English Company " And that he afterwards proceeded

to treat with Mr. Anderson and to adjust the Terms and Conditions of a mutual Cooperation of the English and Maratta Powers to compel Tippoo Saheb to the Performance of the 8th Article of the Treaty or to carry the War into his Country in which the most material Clause is that, Whatever Countries may belong to the Company or the Nabob Walau Jah shall be restored to them, and the Part belonging to the Paishwa shall be restored to him but any other part of Tippoo Saheb's Possessions which may be taken shall be divided into three equal Shares, between the Paishwa, Sindia and the Company and the Shares be assigned to each as they may be most convenient from Vicinity to their respective Territories. If after this a Peace shall be proposed by Tippoo Saheb a joint Peace may be concluded with him but not a separate one '.

12. We have approved of these Conditions with the Exception of Bideenoor and it's Dependencies because we were in Possession of those before the final Conclusion of the Treaty, as we shall hereafter relate to you and obtained them without the Participation of the Maratta Alliance, and General Mathews may have entered into some Engagements with the Chief as the Condition of their Surrender to the Company which might be an insurmountable objection to the Transfer of them.

13. Having thus brought our Report of the State of this Negotiation to it's latest Period, I.[a.] which may be considered as the effectual and final Termination of it, we deem it incumbent upon us to recommend to your most favorable Attention Mr David Anderson, by whose Ministry it has been accomplished. He has repeatedly received our Applause for his Conduct in various Parts of the Progress of this Business, and we ascribe it principally to his guarded Attention and inflexible Perseverance that the Treaty has been so happily concluded in the Terms of its first Construction which was also his Work. Its importance derived from it's Relation to the various Parts of your political Interests, is rendered yet greater by the anxious Expectation which you have expressed in all your late Letters for it's Accomplishment and by the public Attention of which it has been so long an Object and we entertain the most sanguine Conviction, that it will prove immediately decisive of the War which has so long laid Waste the Carnatic, and for ever blast all Hopes which the French may have entertained, of the Reestablishment of their Power in India.

14th. By these united Considerations we were strongly impelled to bestow on Mr David Anderson a public and liberal Reward in Testimony of our Sense of the Zeal and Ability with which he has performed this Service, and of the Magnitude of it. but we have rather chosen to refer this Act to your Honble. Court, in belief that it would be more effectual for his Advantage as it would certainly be more Honorable for his Reputation.

15th. We have every Reason to be satisfied with the Conduct of Madajee Sindia who has acted with Steadiness and consistency throughout this Business; we ascribe it to the Opposition and Jealousies of the various Parties, and Chiefs of the Maratta State whom he had to consult and conciliate that the Conclusion of the Treaty was so long protracted, and we

think that he has manifested equal Management, Ability, and Sincerity, in the Steps which he took to get the better of them We have expressed our Satisfaction with Madajee Sindia's Conduct in our Letters to him, and we think it proper that you also should be particularly acquainted with our Sense of it

16th. This too will justify the Declaration which we made to you in our Letters of 15th July that we placed a firm Reliance on the Good Faith and Consistency of Madajee Sindia

17th In a Word, the Policy which has been so successful in making Sindia, from a Sense of your Force, and his own Interests, the Channel for concluding Peace with the Maratta Empire, will secure the Permanency of that Peace, and no Chief in Indostan, appears to be more entitled to the Distinction of being at once the Plenipotentiary, and Guarantee, in such an important Arrangement Whoever may succeed him in his Dominions and Station, as General of the Maratta Aristocracy, will equally wish, and find it his Interest to support the Treaty

18 After every Point had been settled with Madajee Sindia, Mr Anderson obtained from him, Passports for the Return of the Bengal Detachment under Colonel Moigan, and forwarded them immediately to that Officer, with our Orders for his March to the Banks of the Jumna

19 At this Close of our Operations on that Side of India, we owe it as a Duty of Justice to Mr Boddam your Chief at Surat, to acknowledge the Services of that Gentleman, in the various Aids which he has constantly afforded to the Commander of our Army, and to recommend him to your Favor.

20th.	We have a singular Pleasure in acquainting you that Sir Eyre
Consn 20th	Coote left the River for Madras, in the Resolution Captain
March	Wemyss a few Days ago in order to resume the Command
13 Janry	of the Army in the Carnatic, under particular Instructions
10 March	from us, and with the same Powers in all Military
	Operations which he before possessed, and which for
	many Reasons we have thought it necessary to renew and confirm
	to him.

21st. Sir Eyre Coote previous to his Departure, having thought it necessary to record sundry Minutes, concerning the Affairs of the Carnatic, and the Instructions of the President and Select Committee at Fort St George, we beg leave to point them out to you, and to request your attentive Perusal of them

22nd Fully persuaded of the great Occasion which had been lost, for putting a period to the War in the Carnatic, by the instant March of the Army on the first Information of Hyder Ally's death, which had been neglected by the mismanagement which put it out of the Power of the Army to move on any sudden Emergency, Sir Eyre Coote stated to us the particular Advice to the President and Select Committee and the positive Instructions to General Stuart, which he had given previous to his Departure from Madrass for keeping the Army together and in a constant State

for immediate Service, to which he has added his Reflections upon the Measures actually pursued since that Period both in this Instance and the

Genl. Minute Destruction of Negapatam which was also contrary to his
 Consn 3d Feb Opinion and Advice. As we concur entirely in the Conclu-
 Do 11 Mar sions and Reasoning of the General, on these Points,

we enclose Copies of the Papers and beg leave to recommend them to your particular Notice

23d A further Minute from Sir Eyre Coote, which in Consequence of the Request contained at the Conclusion of it, we send a Number in the Packet was written by him on a Supposition that a Misrepresentation had been made to you of the Circumstances relating to the Siege and Capture of Negapatam from the Dutch upon which you grounded your Opinion, contained in the 31 Para of your General Letter to the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George, dated 12th July 1782 that Under taking so far from being contrary to his Opinion, and Advice having been as he proves by the Papers annexed to his Minute, in strict Conformity to them, tho differently executed from the Plan which he had recommended which Plan he declares would not have been less effectual in the ultimate Object of it, but infinitely more beneficial in the Consequences by the Preservation of Coll. Brathwaite's Army which was unfortunately cut off subsequent to the Surrender of the Place For an Elucidation of these Facts and to clear the General from an Imputation, which coming from such

high Authority has very much affected him we must
 15th March beg to refer you to the Minute and Papers.

24th As a Preliminary to Sir Eyre Coote's Departure for Madraas, he thought it necessary to propose Six Questions, for our Determination upon them, in order to guide him in the Line which he should pursue for negotiating with Tippoo Sahib if he should be inclined to make Peace

with us or for prosecuting the War if no such Overtures
 11th Feby should come from him Our Opinions which were deliberately given in the form of Answers to each Question, have been super coded on this most essential Point by the subsequent Interchange of the Maratta Treaty which precludes any separate Negotiation with Tippoo and by the Measures taken in consequence of it regarding him

25th We cannot avoid drawing your Attention in this Place to the Measures of your President and Select Committee at
 11th February Fort St. George in the discreditable Deputation and Overtures, which they thought proper to make for a Treaty with Tippoo Sahib, thro the Means of a Native who was the Servant of the Raja of Tanjore, notwithstanding our decided Opinion expressed to them in former Appli cation to us for Powers to treat with Hyder, that any

19th Oct Advance to him for a Peace would only encourage him to persist in the War

20th. We also think it necessary to require your special Attention

21st Oct 11th to the Particulars of our Correspondence, with the Presi-
 March, 1st April dent and Select Committee at fort St George upon their

repeated Applications to us, for Powers and Instructions to negotiate with the Enemy, as we have no doubt that they will transmit them to you, with Comments of their own, which we shall be unacquainted with, and a candid Perusal of the Letters which have passed between us, tho' we have little Time or Inclination for such a Correspondence, is all that we desire for the fullest Justification of our Conduct, in denying those Powers which they seemed to be so solicitous to obtain from us

27th Some further Questions arising out of this Subject, as it stood affected by the Maratta Treaty, and out of a most serious and pathetic Letter from the Nabob Wallau Jah, which we shall mention hereafter, it was thought proper to avail ourselves of General Sir Eyre Coote's presence to collect his Sentiments with those of the other Members of the Board, upon them and we beg leave to submit the whole to your Perusal and Attention: for which Reason Copies of them are sent Numbers in the Packet.

28th. We have deemed it a necessary Form to notify to the Nabob, your Commands contained in the 51st and 52nd Paragraphs of your General Letter to us, of the 12th July 1782, together with corresponding Extracts, which more fully treat of the same Subject in the 30th, 37th, 38th and 40th Paragraphs of your Letter to the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George of the same Date, altho' we obviously concluded, that these last would have been, as in form they ought, communicated by your President and Council of Fort St George

29th As you have thought proper to direct, that our Agreement made with the Nabob in April 1781, should be forthwith annulled, and as that Agreement was made and expressed to be revocable at your Pleasure, it is our Duty both to obey your Orders, and to enforce the Obedience of the Government of Fort St George in those Points, in which the Faith of this Government which is Yours remains yet pledged and liable to Violation

30th When we concluded a solemn Engagement with the Nabob, subject to your Confirmation or Repeal, we virtually pledged the Faith of this Government and Your's, that in the Event of your annulling the Treaty, the Nabob should be replaced precisely in the same Condition, as that in which he stood before the Conclusion of that Agreement, and from which he was removed in Consequence of that Agreement, nor is it in the Principle of Public Faith alone that we ground this Obligation but on the indispensable Ties of natural Justice, for nothing could be more unjust than to retain the Benefits of a Treaty after having declared it to be annulled, or, in other Words, that one Party should be compulsively bound, by the other assuming a Latitude to be wholly absolved from it

31st On these obvious Principles you observe that "as you have cancelled the Agreement under which the Authority of the Committee of assigned Revenue was formed, so you direct that the Committee itself be immediately abolished, unless the Nabob shall of his own free Will and Accord, make it his particular Request that his Revenues shall continue to be so managed "

the other Presidencies, to yield to our Commands in the Construction of them otherwise we fear that your Orders addressed to them and only notified to us will furnish frequent Grounds of Competition and even a Plea to refuse a Compliance with our Instructions from that Difference in the Direction of your Commands.

39 The most guarded Instructions which human Wisdom can frame will be over liable to misconstructions, either real or forced and for this reason We believe that it is observed as an indispensable rule in every established Constitution, that orders which for their execution must be committed to the Charge of many Men or Bodies of Men in gradation of authority should be addressed to the first only and through them by their Orders to the rest. But if this rule is so necessary in the Simple transmission of original Orders much more forcibly will the necessary [sic] of it apply to public Censures of those who are first in authority which if conveyed to those who are subjected to them cannot fail to defeat it by destroying the respect on which all authority subsists. As it in effect renders them in part the instruments of the punishment of their Superiors, and of course by encouraging disobedience to all orders in the reliance on the same Disposition to justify and warrant it

40 We have received the letters from the Nabob Walla Jah containing very heavy and anxious complaints, against the Conduct of Lord Macartney towards him and enclosing Copies of his late correspondence with his Lordship The Nabob was not at that time apprized, of the Resolutions which we had passed upon the former Representations of his Minister Ahmam Cawn, transmitted to you by the Lively and upon which we fully informed you of our proceedings by our last dispatches in the Fox, but he had been made acquainted with the purport of your Orders of the 12 of July respecting the Treaty and assignment and had grounded his applications to Lord Macartney upon them. The Nabob's letters are so full on every Circumstance of his Complaints, and of such a serious and important nature that we cannot do justice to the contents of them, by a brief relation in this place We therefore transmit complete Copies to you in the packet and earnestly recommend them to your most attentive and instant Consideration

41 When the Consequence of the foregoing paragraph is Considered We trust we shall be excused for having delayed thus long to mention intelligence of equal importance to your Interests which has since come to our knowledge We mean the great and unexpected Success of General Mathews against Tippoo Sahib's dominions on the Malabar Coast

42 It appears by Advice from General Mathews to the President and select Committee at Fort St George copies of which they have transmitted to us and we likewise enclose to you that on the 18 of December he landed at the entrance of the River Mirjee and took the Fort of Raja Mnudroog by storm whence he proceeded as soon as the necessary preparations were made, to begin with little loss taking or destroying the Garrison which consisted of 2000 Men He then proceeded to Cundapore

making himself master of the interjacent Sea Coast and taking at the different Ports one Sixty and three fifty Gun Ships nearly finished, also a Sixty four on the Stocks and Several small Vessels Gullivats &ca. He attacked the Fort of Cundapore, on the 15 of January and took it On the 18th he was joined by Lieutenant Colonel Macleod with 750 effective Europeans, 3500 Sepoys and 10 Field Pieces.

43. With this re-inforcement General Mathews in pursuance of his orders from Bombay forced his way through the Gaut which he describes to be "a Steep and difficult ascent of 7 Miles fortified at the most Judicious places with strong Barriers, Batteries, breast Works and two Forts on which were mounted 60 pieces of Cannon from 24 to 4 Pounders and defended by 1500 Cavalry many of whom were dismounted about 1500 regular Sepoys and 1500 Matchlock Men." Having secured these places he summoned "the Fort of Bidenore a place, well built and Strong with near 70 pieces of Cannon and immense quantity of Powder and Ball and 8000 stand of Arms quite new" and the Capital of the district of that name which surrendered to him without resistance. In this he had the good fortune to release the remains of three Battalions of the unfortunate detachment Commanded by Colonel Baillie in the Action with Hyder on the 11th of September 1780. We have received thro' a private Channel a Persian Copy of a Letter addressed to this Government from the Phousdar or Governor of Bedinoor transmitted by Captain Donald Campbell, who is in Possession of the original, We enclose a Translation, Although it mentions the Surrender of the Fort of Hydernagur to General Mathews with all the Treasure of Stores which it contained, the Fousdar's Submission to the English Government and his Intention to assist and support the General in the Progress of his Arms towards Seringapatam, it does not specify the Terms of the Capitulation. Then we presume Captain Campbell is possessed of as General Mathews likewise refers to him, Copy of a Letter from Captain Campbell to a Member of our Board is enclosed

44 General Mathews adds to his information that his next object must be Mangalore, but his attention was at that instant attracted by the report of a large detachment made from Tippoo Saheb's Army in the Carnatic to oppose him.

45 In fact we find that as soon as Tippoo heard of the danger to which his own possessions, were exposed, from the success of our Arms, he took means to destroy the Works at Arcot, and Arnrie, which having accomplished he immediately afterwards evacuated them, and retired to his own Dominions

46. We have received undoubted information of this fact, for by a letter from Colonel Pearse to the Governor General dated the 13th March it appears that our Army took possession of the Fort of Arcot on that Evening one hour after the Enemy had abandoned it, but we have received no public advice of it yet from the Resident and Select Committee at Fort St George, whose plans and resolution in Consequence of it we are very anxious to learn, because we doubt not that Tippoo's Force will be immediately

turned against General Mathews who ought to be supported both in the first Conflict with him and in every future operation by every possible succour that can be given to him For this purpose an Army was formed in the Southern provinces of the Carnatic under the Command of Colonel Lang which had been ordered to March some time before for an early co-operation with him

47 The Bideenour Country is very Rich and Fertile and being surrounded by hills may be easily defended against an Enemy we conceive it therefore a very valuable acquisition to the Company

48 We have received advices under date the 1st and 14th of February from Admiral Sir Edward Hughes at Bombay where he was employed in refitting his Squadron which appears to have suffered so severely from the damages sustained in four different and warmly contested actions with the French in the Course of last year and from the Effects of the Gale of Wind which it experienced off Madraas on the 15th of October that he informs us several of the Ships could not have been kept three Months longer above water and almost all would have lost their Masts and Rudders had they continued without the benefit of such a Port as Bombay to refit at indeed he adds that one [not one !] of the nine Ships which began the Campaign with him in February 1782 nor the Sultan which afterwards joined him had a Serviceable mast and the Defence wanted a Foremast

49 For the sake of expedition the Admiral with the permission of the Portuguese Governor of Goa had left three of his line of Battle Ships to refit at that place. We was [sic] preparing the remainder at Bombay with all the Workmen of the Place when he received our Letter dated the 15th of January advising him of the appearance of Monar Suffren's fleet off Ganjam In reply He informed us that he should continue to use every exertion in his power and was in hopes to leave Bombay with the whole of the Squadron and every Ship Coppered by the 15th of March when he should use all diligence to find the Enemy's Ships on this Coast.

50 Monar Suffren besides the Blandford Indiaman mentioned in our Letter by the Fox has also taken the Coventry Frigate which came down to her assistance and in the course of his cruize several Country Vessels Amongst the rest was one laden with Ordnance and Military Stores for the Garrison at Ganjam which had been dispatched from hence before We received any accounts, of the French fleet, and arrived in the Roads of Ganjam while they were off that place

51 The importance of Strengthening and support [ing] the Port of Ganjam in case the Enemy as was supposed to be Monar Bussy's intention, should make an attempt to land their Forces in the Northern Circars, is so evident that we have dispatched a Vessel to replace the Stores which were lost and to carry some Artillery Lascars, and we have written to the Chief and Council at Vizagapatam, at which place the Fort is untenable from the extent of the Works which are out of repair to send their Military

Stores to Ganjam. This Order has been Confirmed by the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George

52 By a Letter from Mr Chapman at Naugpore we understand that a reconciliation has taken place between Nizam Ally Cawn and Yestesham Jung the Zemindar of Nurmull who was lately in rebellion against him

53 This event having disengaged the Arms of Nizam Ally Cawn which had been diverted from any foreign operations while opposed to his Zemindar and leaving that Nabob at liberty to pursue his inimical designs towards the English with the greater effect, We thought it expedient that our Resident should proceed without delay to his Court Mr James Grant who was still at Massulipatam had been ordered some time before to repair thither, but in a letter which we received from him after pleading other excuses for not having been able to Comply with our Orders he adds that the want of health obliges him to request our permission to resign his Station It was then proposed that Mr Richard Joseph Sullivan⁴ should be appointed and a further incentive was urged, that being well acquainted with the Disposition of the Nabob Walla Jah and with the Animosities which had long subsisted between him and Nizam Ally he might be the better able to conciliate the Mind of the latter Some objections having been made in the Debates upon this Subject—the Governor General has written a letter to the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn to know his wishes concerning the Residence of a person in the room of Mr Hollond and the appointment will be suspended 'till we hear from him

. 54 In the short letter which we dispatched to you over land we mentioned the issue of the Vizier's Negociation with the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn thro' the agency of Major Palmer We shall now be more particular on this Subject The above Nabob after the Conquest of the Rohilla Country by the late Vizir was allowed by Treaty a Jaghier of the District of Rampore estimated at 15 Lacks of Rupees a year and restricted in Military Force to the complement of 5000 Troops to which was added a clause that he should send 2 or 3000 men to join the Vizier's Force or attend in person in case it should be requisite The late Vizier died very soon after the date of this Treaty and the present Vizier his successor never having derived any benefit from the Stipulation for Military Aid which whenever Required was as often refused or evaded the Stipulation in fact became a nullity

55 Frequent reports had been made to the Vizier to the Prejudice of Fyzoola Cawn's Fidelity He was said to have enriched his Zemindary, by the Seduction of the Vizir's Tenants, from the Adjacent Countries and with the Wealth, he had accumulated to be increasing his Military Force, in order to make himself independant The late Resident and his deputy, wrote us very alarming accounts of their suspicions of Fyzoola Cawn designs, from the dangerous intrigues, which he was said to be carrying on with the Neighbouring Chiefs, for the invasion of the Vizir's dominions They even applied to us for the detachment of a considerable Military Force to assist the Vizir in reducing him to Obedience.

56 From the numerous enemies which we had to oppose at that time we thought it would be highly imprudent to increase the Number of our foes and recommended a friendly and Conciliatory Conduct towards Fyzoola Cawn, unless he should be found in open rebellion until our affairs should be in a better State to warrant Forceible means if they should be necessary

57 On the appointment of Mr Bristow to Lucknow he was specially instructed to endeavour to ascertain the real situation and intentions of Fyzoola Cawn and by a Cautious but firm and [sic] effectual interposition to explain the disputed Clauses of the Treaty and to open a negotiation with him for the purpose of reducing his dependance on the Vizier's Government to such Specific conditions as might prevent any future disagreements between them

58. The Vizier conceiving it proper to depute an English Gentleman to Fyzoola Cawn for this purpose and Major Palmer happening at that time to be at Lucknow he was accordingly appointed with instructions from the Resident given under the Vizir's authority

59 As the tenor of these instructions left Major Palmer at liberty to open the Negotiation or not as he should find Fyzoola Cawn disposed to receive him and appeared to us to be too indefinite to produce any immediate effect We wrote a letter to the Resident directing him to reduce them to the three following points

1st. To offer to relinquish the Vizir's claim to the Military Aid which he was entitled to by Treaty and to require a Compensation in Money in lieu of it

2dly To require that the Vizir's Tenants who had taken protection in Fyzoola Cawn's Jaghler should be restored to the lands of their proper Sovereign and

3dly To offer for a proper Consideration money to change Fyzoola Cawn's Jaghler which is a tenure for life into an Altum, which descends to Successors.

60 The purport of our letter was immediately communicated by Mr Bristow to Major Palmer but did not reach him till his negotiation was nearly concluded He had been well received by Fyzoola Cawn who strenuously denied every infringement of the Treaty which had been laid to his Charge but acquiesced in opinion that the Stipulation for military aid contained in the Treaty was Subject to misconstruction and would constantly produce misunderstanding and inconveniences with the Vizier He therefore declared his readiness to give a compensation in lieu of it but his offer did not exceed five Lacks of Rupees Major Palmer demanded twenty Lacks and after many tedious and difficult discussions settled the terms at Fifteen Lacks, five of which were to be paid immediately and the remainder in three installments at the Seasons of the harvests and a Treaty has accordingly been executed which also precludes Fyzoola Cawn from granting Refuge to the Vizier's Tenants and consequently includes our second proposition but in order to confute the allegation upon which it was founded

Fyzoola Cawn produced to Major Palmer receipts of various dates from the Vizir's Officers for a great number of Tonnants delivered up to them upon their requisitions With respect to the third Article Fyzoola Cawn was wholly unwilling to treat upon it declaring his inability to advance the additional compensation required Major Palmer having fixed the Sum of Thirty Lacks of Rupees for the whole

61 We cannot conceive what could have been Fyzoola Cawn's real motive for rejecting an offer which must appear to every one, to be so valuable for an Old man, the Confirmation of a rich Inheritance to his Son, but we are full as well pleased that he did not accept it. Upon the whole we conceive that the Vizir has obtained a very ample equivalent for relinquishing his claim to a precarious and unserviceable right, and we must add our Satisfaction, that the affair has terminated in this manner, because in your letter of the 12th July 1782 Paragraph 62, you express some apprehension for the event of the requisition made from him for his Quota of Troops, and proceed to intimate your wish rather to be considered as the Guardians of the honor and prosperity, of the Native powers, in India than as the Instruments of Oppression, and hope and trust that no hostile Steps have been taken against that Rohilla Chief

62 Before we quit this Subject we think it necessary to add that Major Palmer on his arrival with Fyzoola Cawn found that the Rumours, which had been spread of his hostile designs against the Vizier were totally groundless and that if he had been inclined he had not the means to make himself formidable, on the Contrary being in the decline of Life, and possessing a very fertile and prosperous Jagheer, it is more natural to suppose that Fyzoola Cawn wishes to spend the remainder of his days, in peace and quietness than that he is preparing to embark in an a[c]tive and offensive scene which must end in his own destruction

63 In the arrangement thus fortunately concluded with Foyzolla Cawn, we have adopted the Ideas which we stated to you in the 25 Paragraph of our Letter in the Secret Department of the 14th October 1781 and such are the measures, which we shall ever wish to observe towards our Allies or Dependants, upon our Frontiers

64 Having been requested to grant Sunnuds for the Jagheers⁵ which were settled upon Beneram Pandit, Bundoo Caun Commandant and Jaggernaut subadar in the District of Benares by the Governor General when he was there and confirmed to them by the authority of this Government, We have ordered Sunnuds to be prepared and delivered to them accordingly

We have the honor to be, Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants
Warren Hastings/Edward Wheler/
John Macpherson/John Stables.

Fort William,
5th April 1783.
[Per *Surprize*]

LETTER DATED 20 OCTOBER 1783

Cessation of hostilities in Europe and India—death of Sir Eyre Coote—negotiations with Tipu—differences between the Governments of Fort St George and Fort William—complaints against Mr Bristow the Company's Resident at Oudh.

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

1 Our last address to you from this Department was dated 5 of April 1783 and Conveyed to you by the Surprize Packet. A duplicate is enclosed with this by the Narhodda.

2 We have had the honor to receive your Commands of the 14th of February 1783 the Subject of which relates to this department. We have also received those of the Secret Committee under the following dates Vixt. 1—18th Juno 1782 1—11 July 2—12 July 1—5 September 1—6 September 1—10 December 1—Jany 1783 1—27 March 1783 And letters from your Secretary of the 23d Jany 8th and 15 of February 1783 enclosing a Copy of Lord Granthams Letter of the 23d January and printed Copies of his Majestys proclamation of peace and of the preliminary Articles Concluded with the Belligerent Powers at Versailles on the 20th of January¹

3 The instant we received these Authentick documents We caused his Majesty's proclamation to be read with overy proper
Consn 15 Augt. and public form at each Station of the Troops under this Presidency and circulated Copies of it to our Ministers residing at the Courts of the Neighbouring Country Powers with instructions to Communication [sic] the happy tidings of peace to them respectively

4 We shall leave it to the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George as a duty more immediately incumbent on them possessing the local Jurisdiction and information to advise you of the particular detail of Military Operations against the French Forces both by land and by Sea from that Coast previous to their receipt of the News of the Peace merely adverting to them in this letter to preserve the chain of historical facts since the date of our last

5 But here we must be excused for mentioning out of its Course an event which obtrudes itself first upon our Attention and claims the early tribute due to so great a public loss and to our own private feelings in acquainting you with the death of Lieutt General Sir Eyre Coote which happened at Madraas on the 27 of last April. He had sailed from this River as we before informed you about the end of March in the Resolution a
Consn. 7 May
Genl. Letter 5
April

private Ship to resume the Command of the Army in the Carnatic Unfortunately the French Admiral apprized of his expected departure kept four of his best sailing Ships of the line and two Frigates Cruising off the Roads of Madrass to intercept Him These Ships fell in with the Resolution in that situation and chased Her incessantly for four days and four nights being moonlight and sometimes within the distance of a league

Col Owens
Letter.

The General is described to have suffered all the anxiety which can be felt by an Active mind in such a Situation and under such Circumstances He was almost perpetually watching upon Deck and too distracted by his apprehensions of being taken to enjoy any rest Indeed he repeatedly fainted and remained long insensible from the effect of excessive Weakness and fatigue The Enemy at length gave over the pursuit and the Resolution arrived at Madrass on the 24 of April The good old General however had sustained too severe a shock in his Health to be proof against such a trial His Constitution Yielded under it and He died in three days afterwards

7 The long tried and glorious Services of Sir Eyre Coote which have justly merited and received the highest and most flattering honors that a subject can aspire to in the thanks of His King the Sincere applause of His Country, place his Military Character above the necessity of our testimony to transmit it to Posterity, but in Candor we are obliged to declare that His Military Order and Zeal were unshaken to the last and that he died a Martyr in the Cause of his Country

8 This Subject leads us to mention in this place a letter² written by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee at Fort St George to the General on the 24th of April and sent to his House when he was lying insensible upon his Death bed We can see no good excuse for such a Letter written at such a Crisis The best that occurs to us that it must have been premeditated and prepared before the Actual Condition of the General's Health could be known to them Any Comments upon the Subject now would be superfluous but we most earnestly recommend this extraordinary production to your perusal and serious attention and add our firm and sincere belief that if it had been possible to have Communicated the Contents to the General in his illness, they wou'd have accelerated his Death and if he had survived his illness the Communication of them would have deprived the public of those Services against the Enemy in the Carnatic which his Zeal had prompted him to give and former experience entitles us to declare He could have given with effect

9 The Successes of Genl Mathews in the Bidenoor Country where besides the Fort and all the district of that name the Garrison of Mangalore also surrendered to Him on the 9th of February produced the immediate Consequences we expected from them by drawing Tippoo with his Army out of the Carnatic for the salvation or recovery of his own Dominions In his March He was joined by a Body of 5 or 600 French Troops from Cuddalore before

Consn. 21 April
Consn 22 May

our Army from Madrass could be put in motion to prevent it and He [sent] a detachment of his Forces Commanded by Meer Mohun o deen to Strengthen the Garrison of Cuddalore where a French reinforcement was expected with Monar Bussy who accordingly arrived and landed
 Consn. 7 April 2200 Europeans and 1000 Coffers about the middle of March.

10 The English Army being assembled a[t] the Mount and prepared to March were in Motion on the 21 of April They arrived
 Consn. 9 May at Cuddalore on the 7th of June and on the 13th Attacked
 Consn. 3 July the French redoubts. The Contest of that day was some time doubtful and maintained with great Spirit on both sides but at length terminated in our favor by the retreat of the Enemy into the Walls of Cuddalore. On the 24th they made a grand Sally but were repulsed with loss and defeated a second time

11 In both these Actions but particularly the last we do but justice to the Conduct and bravery of the Bengal Sepoys to remark that they sustained repeated attacks from a great share of the Enemys Force with an undaunted Steadiness which would have done honor to Veteran British Soldiers

12. A Naval engagement was fought off Cuddalore by the two Fleets of Sir Edward Hughes and the Chevalier de Suffren on the 20th of June after which our Ships from a Shortness of Water and previous [provisions!] and from the Sickness of the People were obliged to return to Fort St. George.

13 About this time news arrived at Madrass of the Conclusion and ratification of the preliminary Articles for a peace with
 Consn. 21 July France, Spain Holland and America and Copies of these Articles having been received thro' private Channels of Communication which the President and Select Committee had no reason to doubt the Authenticity of they resolved on the 24 of June to send a Deputation to the Officer Commanding the French Forces in India with proposals for a Cessation of Arms until the Peace should be regularly Confirmed from Authority Mr Sadleir the Senior Member of the Select Committee and Mr Staunton the private Secretary of Lord Macartney were accordingly deputed and arrived at Cuddalore within the same Month of June
 Consn 18 Augt. they were well received by the Marquis de Bussy and the Chevalier de Suffren who immediately admitted the information of the Peace which they brought them as Authentic and the former possessing the Chief Power agreed to the Cessation of Arms proposed to Him and to a Mutual release of Prisoners and Consented to send Orders for the same purpose to the French Troops with Tippoo Saheb but required that Tippoo as the Ally of France should be invited to accede to the Peace in Virtue of the 16 Articles of the preliminaries.

14 Our deputies agreed to unite with Monar Bussy in sending an invitation Accordingly to Tippoo Saheb in Consequence of which they

Consn 18 Aug wrote a Letter requiring Him to Accede to the Peace if He thought proper and Apprizing Him of Orders which they had issued for a Cessation of Hostilities on our part as soon as he shou'd set the Example on His part but demanding as the first Proof of His disposition to peace the release upon Parole or otherwise of our Prisoners in His Hands which letter they left to be forwarded by Monsr Bussey with One from himself and returned to Madrass

15. Tippoo on receipt of this Letter returned an answer thro' Monsr Bussy acquainting the deputies that in Consequence of their Overtures he had dispatched Orders to Meer Mohun O deen the Commanding Officer of his Forces in the Carnatic to cease hostilities against the English and had furnished him with power and instructions to send a List of His Demands to Madrass by Appajee Ram his Vackeel who was to obtain the acquiescence of the President and Select Committee to them previous to Setting the English Prisoners at Liberty or relinquishing the Forts he had taken Mohun O deen wrote to the Governor of Fort St George in consequence and proposed that they should depute two Persons to him and to Mr Bussy after which he wou'd send two in return to Madrass to settle the Demands he had been instructed to make from that Government

16 The President of Fort St George with the sanction of the Committee replied to Tippoo's Letter by explaining the Nature of the former invitation to him in Order to remove his apparent
28 Aug Misconception of it and to repeat their desire He would Order the instant release of the English Prisoners if He meant to accede to the Treaty.

17 The President likewise wrote to Monsr Bussy acquainting Him with the Orders which had been issued generally to the
28 Aug. Commanding Officers of our Forces to Cease hostilities against Tippoo unless Hostilities should be continued by Him and remarking that the Agents deputed by Tippoo would be received with due attention but that they alone were sufficient to terminate the business without any further interposition of the French

18 The President and Select Committee at the same time reported their proceedings to us and Applied for Special Authority
28 Aug and instructions to treat with Tippoo Saheb for the Conclusion of Peace

19. Not knowing the purposes to which such a general and undefined Power might be applied, as We had too much reason to be
4 Sept dissatisfied with the mode and effect of their former attempts to Negotiate with Tippoo and being precluded by the tenor of the Maratta Treaty from Negotiation [*sic*] any Separate Treaty with Hyder and Consequently his Successor We have in Answer to repeated and earnest Solicitations for that purpose confined [*sic*] our former
March letter denying them Authority to treat except for the Accom-
4 Sept. plishment of the 9th Article of the Treaty with the Marattas by which Peace was secured to Tippoo if He chose to Accept of

Peace and for the Release of our Prisoners in his hands which concession We thought should be obtained even at the expence of restoring to Him those Countries which had been Conquered from him by our Troops under their Authority on this Side of his Dominions

20 We are not able indeed from the Letter which We have received from the President and Select Committee of Fort St George to form any clear Idea of the Terms upon which they would wish to acquaint [sic] negotiate with Tippoo Some of their Letters breath only the Spirit of unqualified Concession whilst others recommend the wildest and most extravagant Demands. It is not long since they desired our Concurrence in relinquishing to Tippoo several small Posts and districts in the Carnatio which they declared to be of little value or importance
 Consn. 11 March but convenient to and bordering upon his Dominions.

They have since in other Letters required our Authority to exact from Tippoo such a Reimbursement of the expences incurred by them in this War and such a Compensation for the losses sustained and mischiefs done in the Carnatio by the Invasion from his Father and the Devastations Committed by His Father and himself as the advantage obtained by the Company's Arms should enable them to require Suggesting at the same time a Censure offer [sic] for not having secured those Advantages in our Treaty with the Marattes. But as in the worst Situation of your Affairs We had never suffered ourselves to despair of their Ultimote Safety and in Spite of all the Difficulties which surrounded us had pursued Peace with firm and determined Steps almost to its compleat Attainment so we did not think it worthy of your Government in any prosperous Turn of its Affairs to insist on Terms which were in their Nature inadmissible and Calculated only to display the Lovity and Arrogance of the Power that should wish to impose them. Wild and extravagant Demands when Peace was within our Reach would have as ill become us as Despondenoy in our Progress to it. Besides the Peace with Tippoo was already assured to us by the Treaty concluded with the Peshwa which left to us no Object for a Negotiation and to Him only the Alternative of His Acquiescence or on his Refusal War d[ec]lared against him by a new and equal Power For these reasons We refused our Assent to the Proposal submitted to us by the President and Select Committee of Fort St George and far from apprehending your Censure on this Occasion We trust you will acquit us of that implied in the Letter of the President and Select Committee of Fort St. George especially when you shall compare their Present Sentiments with those which they entertained during the Period of the transaction which the[y] Censure. You will not surely think that they are justified in condemning the inadequate Terms of the Maratta Treaty when you recollect the Letter which they wrote to Mr Anderson almost upon the Eve of it Conclusion [sic I its conclusion] A Letter which in its Way to that Gentleman passed through Hyderabad Doora and the greatest Part of Hindoestan at the evident Hazard of never reaching him and which painted in the most affecting Column [sic I Colours] the extreme Distress of the

Governor of Fort St George it either [its utter ?] Incapacity to continue the War and the absolute and immediate Necessity of Peace to its Salvation on any Terms and with any Sacrifice which cou'd be made to obtain it

21 You will perhaps be surprized to Observe that the President and Select Committee at Fort St George have so frequently taxed us with the insufficiency of our supplies to them if you should observe by our Accounts the actual amount thereof and for this reason we cannot avoid pointing out to Your Special notice our minute of the 15 September written purposely for your information in Consequence of a letter from those on which we thought it sufficient to record on [our] Remarks without making any direct reply as it will then appear that they made no Account of the Bills which they had drawn on us amounting from 11 March 7 April 1 January to that time to the enormous Sum of 33 Lacks 28 Augt 4 Sept nor of other advances to the amount 13 Lacks but 15 Octr.

Our Correspondence with that Government and Minutes treating on the above Subjects having been Voluminous we cannot do Justice to an Abridged Account of them and therefore beg leave to recommend the whole to your perusal collected from the dates which are Specified in the Margin

22 Here however it is proper to remark that Tippoo's acquiescence in the Treaty made with the Paishwa which included him and which we shall mention in the Sequel as recently imparted to us is the strongest confirmation we could desire of the propriety and effect of our declining to delegate Powers to the President and Select Committee at Fort St George to treat with him on any other terms and persisting in the requisition Contained in that Article

23. You have been prepared by our Letter of the 5 of April last to expect the refusal which we have lately received from the Government of Fort St George to carry into execution our Repeated Orders for the Restoration of the Country and Revenues of Carnatic to the Nabob Wallah Jah their Lawful Sovereign which Orders were given by us in Consequence of the Violation of the Condition of the Assignments of the 2d December 1781 by Lord McCartney and of your dissolution of the Treaty of the 2 April 1781 on the Stipulations of which that Assignment had been granted This last Circumstance added strength to the original ground of our decision for conforming [sic] it and repeating the order we had given as We conceived that you cou'd never have intended to Authorize so great an Injustice to the Nabob as He would suffer from Annulling only those Articles of the Treaty which were inserted to secure his Interests and yet retaining those [which] were favourable to the Interests of the Company unless the Nabob should grant his Consent to such an Arrangement Yet we understood by the last dispatches from the President and Select Committee at Fort St George that in a Letter from your Secret Committee of the 5th September 1782 You inform them that "It is your wish that the Assignment may be rendered effectual and that the Nabob

and the Bengal Government may be called upon for their Support to that purpose and that by surmounting the difficulties they had hitherto encountered with they would ensure to themselves the Approbation of their Constituents and a very large share of Public Applause,' Which is the only literal Information we have received of the existence of such a Letter never having been furnished with a Copy of it directly from the Committee as is Customary with you in all Letters which you write to the other Presidencies.

24. It is very embarrassing and distressing to us to see our Orders contemned by the other Presidencies and your Authority quoted whether applicable or not for their disobedience in Cases where we are unacquainted with its having been given but on the Contrary have reason to suppose that no Orders exist from your Court of which we have not been furnished with Copies since you have made it a rule to transmit to us Copies of all such Orders as you Occasionally dispatch to them An early Communication thereof is likewise essential to same [sic] error and here we beg leave to remark that your General Letter to the President and Council at Fort St George of the 12 July 1782 did not accompany the first letter which we received from you of that Date by the Hound Sloop but reached us in a Subsequent Packet had it arrived in proper time it would have apprized us of your pleasure for the dismissal of Mr R. J. Sullivan³ from the Service and prevented a Motion which was made for his Appointment to the Court of Nizam Ally Cawn as a proper person to succeed Mr Holland in the Station of Resident there It would also have prevented a letter which was written to that Chief for his Assent to the appointment and after the letter of apology yet due for not making it after he had signified his approbation of Mr Sullivan for holding the Appointment.

25 In writing to You with Respect to Mr R. J. Sullivan We cannot omit drawing the Att[en]tion of your Honble Court to the very unpleasant situation in which he is placed by your Dismissal of Him from the Service of the Company and the Censure which you have passed upon his Conduct

26 Blameable as Mr Sullivan has appeared to you in Accepting a Deputation from the Nabob of the Carnatic to this Government We yet think ourselves obliged in Honor and Regard to the Character and Credit of this Gentleman to intercede with you in his Behalf for We cannot but conclude that when his Conduct on the Occasion alluded to had received so strong though secret an Approval as was bestowed on it in the Trust reposed in him by this Government of Resident with the Nabob He must have supposed that He was acquitted of all the Blame imputed to him by the Presidency of Madras for having Accepted a Commission to Bengal

27 The Governor General and Mr Wheeler formed the Board in April 1781 when the Agreement which was a Consequence of that Commission was made with the Nabob through his Ministers Syed Asim Cawn The Governor General takes to himself and believes that the [sic] can answer for Mr Wheelers Readiness to do so likewise whatever Responsibility may

attend this Measure a Responsibility in which Mr Sullivan cannot in any wise Participate The Conduct of the Board in adopting the Measure has already been defended in the Letters which have been addressed to You from hence and in Support of Mr Sullivan's Conduct We must declare that We believe his Intentions to have [been] directed throughout the whole of it to the Honor and Benefit of the Company in which the Preservation of the Nabobs dignity and Rights were essentially included We take leave to refer you to a Letter to the Governor General on this Subject from Mr. Sullivan which at his request makes a No in the Packet

28 Under this Impression and Because we are well satisfied of Mr. Sullivan's Abilities and Integrity as [a] faithful Servant of the Company We particularly and individually request that he may be restored with his rank to our Service and here we beg leave to Observe that we have undoubted Evidence from the Letters of the Nabob Walau Jah as well as from the representation of Lord Macartney to one of our Members that it was chiefly owing to Mr Sullivan's Zeal and Influence that the Nabob granted to Lord Macartney the Sunnud of Assignment for the Revenues of the Carnatic

29 Our Deference to Your Opinion of Mr Sullivan's Conduct prevented Us from deputing Him to Hydrabad although the [.] had approved of our Selection of him for that purpose He has of Course suffered a Severe Disappointment and perhaps Your Honble Court may deem him entitled to a Recompence for it ; This we humbly submit to you as a further Agreement [argument] in Support of our Solicitation in his favour

30 We request that you will take notice that the President and Select Committee of Fort St George in their last Letter Concerning the Assignment, accuse us of an Attempt to breed Confusion in their Government by creating a Contest between the Clashing Jurisdiction of the Council and Select Committee by addressing Ourselves to the former to require them to enforce our Orders for the restoration of the Assignment to the Nabob and for Demanding from the Nabob the performance of the Subsequent Agreement⁴ Concluded by
 Consn 28 April us with his Minister on the 13 Jany 1783 and afterwards ratified by him

31. We had issued our most peremptory Orders for this Effect directly to the President and Select Committee at Fort St
 13 Jany. George and on their Disobedience alone We were impelled to apply to that Government at large of which the President and Select Committee were only a Branch Your Orders on all Matters whether in the Internal Policy of that Government they be Intended for the exclusive Consideration and Obedience of the Select Committee or the Council are generally addressed to the Latter and they alone as we Conceive, possess the Power of enforcing Obedience to Orders which the Select Committee have refused to Obey For in the last resort should the Conduct of the Select Committee be so flagrant as to reduce us to the Necessity of

vindicating our own Authority by the Exertion of that Power of Suspension from the Service with which we are vested by Act of Parliament they on the same Grounds which Incited them to the first Disobedience should the Order of Suspension be directed to them still refuse to submit to our Decision in an Instance which so much more nearly affected them and the Council which is the Government at large would be the only Power to which we could properly apply to maintain our Authority but by addressing ourselves to them in the first Instance of a Refusal to obey our Commands in Order to Carry those Commands into Force We rather as We conceive took a proper and a Moderate Part which we hoped would put an End to the Difference and prevent our proceeding to any greater Extremities.

32 An Opinion has been given by the Governor General to which
 Consn. 13 Oct. We beg Leave to refer that in the Instance before Us of the President and Select Committee having persisted in their Refusal to render back the Nabobs Assignment and applying the words miserable Delusion to our Expectation of the Obedience of the Council at Large 'We ought to proceed to greater Extremities and that it was "the Duty of this Government to exercise the penal Controul vested in it by the Act of Parliament of the 13 of his present Majestys Reign by ordering the Suspension of the Right Honble Lord Macartney and of Anthony Sadlire Alex Davidson and Morgan Williams Esqr being the President and Select Committee of Fort St George from their respective Offices in the said Presidency of Fort St George for refusing to restore to the Nabob Wallau Jah the Assignment of his Revenues of the Province of Carnatic in repeated Disobedience of the Orders of the Governor General and Council of the 13 Jany and 15 of August Last requiring it and in Violation of the Treaty concluded by this Government with the Nabob Wallaw Jah on the 2d of April 1781

33 Our Opinions upon this important question are recorded and we
 Consn. 13 Oct beg leave to draw your Attention to them

34 It cannot but strike You that the Style of all the Letters which we have received from Madras is very Insulting and Indecent nor do we see any reason for their sending Us Copies of two Minutes of the Opinions of the Members of the Council upon the Subject of the Assignment but to add to the Provocation Indeed the Minute of Mr Dent^h delivered on this Occasion is a Production of so uncommon a Kind that we are surprized it should have been allowed a Place in the Records of that Government and we beg leave to notice it as most pointed Illustration of the Truth of an Observation which We took the Liberty to suggest to your Honble Court in the 38th and 39th Paragraphs of our Letter of the 5th of April Last which went by the Surprize and which upon this Occasion We earnestly recommend to your Reperusal together with the Minute to which We allude At the same Time we shall be very sorry that this Remark should prove of any hurtful Consequences to the Gentleman to whom it relates since we are convinced from the tenor of his Minute that the exceptionable parts of it proceed Less from a

Defect of the Heart than of the Judgement

35 We have hitherto requested your perusal of our proceedings at large upon the Subject of our orders to Madrass for restoring the Nabob's Assignment and as it [is] Impossible to furnish you with an accurate Abridgement in the Compass of a General Letter which shall contain the full force of the facts and Arguments that appear upon them we Continue the Same mode of reference which is of so much Consequence as to Demand your earliest and most serious Attention.

36. Before this Letter can arrive we have no doubt but you will have had in reference submitted to you a full and particular Account of the unhappy Differences which have lately taken place between Lord Macartney and Major General Stuart which first produced the General's recall from the command of the Army at Cuddalore by the Authority of the President and Select Committee and afterwards his Dismission from the Company's Services and Confinement

37 We have received a Communication of the President and Select Committee upon those Occasions and appeals both from Major General Stuart and Major General Sir John Burgoyne the Next Senior Officer in His Majestys Service at Madrass to whom the Chief Command of the Army was offered upon the dismission of General Stuart, but in reply to these Gentlemen we were obliged to decline any Interference in their behalf excusing ourselves from the want of Authority to take Cognizance of the Internal transactions of the other Presidencies

38. In the Letter from the President and Select Committee written merely to Convey the Information of this Business they could not refrain from throwing out reproaches against us upon points introduced merely for that purpose altho' totally foreign to and independant of the matter before them

39 From defective information we can only cursorily Mention the operations which your Forces have been engaged in on the Coast of Malabar We know from Authority that subsequent to the Capitulation of Bidenore but before the Expedition against Mangalore [] and Major Shaw the Senior Kings Officers who had served the former Service retired in great disgust with his Conduct to Bombay to make good their Complaints to the Government there in Consequence of which and of the Opinion of the President and Select Committee that Genl Mathews had been neglectful of his Duty in not to that time reporting the terms of the Capitulation of Bidenore to them and deficient in transmitting the Advices of His proceedings and that He had been guilty of other Breaches of Duty and Disobedience of Orders that Committee resolved to Suspend Him from the Company's Services and to appoint Coll Macleod to Succeed Him in the Command of the Army

40 Coll Macleod and Humberston and Major Shaw left Bombay in the Ranger on the 5 April in Order to proceed to join the Army at Mangalore

but unfortunately fell in with the Maratta Fleet off Gherin what attacked them and after a Desperate Action in which Coll. Humberston and Major Shaw were killed and Coll. Macleod very severely wounded took the Rajar [Ranger] and carried the Prisoners ashore. The Ratification of the Maratta Treaty by the Peshwa had at that time but recently been Published and was unknown to the Officers in Command of the Naval force by which the Rajar had been taken but on a remonstrance being preferred to the Maratta Government in Consequence of this Act of Hostility they Ordered Satisfaction to be made by the immediate release of Coll. Macleod Capt. Pruer the Commander of the Ranger and the other Prisoners and by the Restitution of the Vessel.

41 General Mathews who at this time remained in Bideonore with such part of *His Original Detachment* as were in force with Him and which we understood had been much reduced by the Number of Posts which had been Garrisoned from it was hemmed by Tippoo at the head of his main Army and as private accounts collected and confirmed thro so many different and unconnected [unconnected] Channels as to leave no room to doubt the truth of them for we have none of Public Authority relate [*sic*] was compelled after many desperate and ineffectual Sallics to Capitulate but the same accounts add that the terms of the Capitulation were immediately broken by Tippoo and the whole Garrison sent Prisoners to Seringapatam

42 The Siege of Mangalore^a was afterwards commenced by Tippoo and relief immediately dispatched from Fort Saint George on board the Isis and Bristol two [of] his Majestys Ships. We have yet only received a Vague account of the Proceedings there by which it appears that the Ships put into Tillicherry not having landed their reinforcements or Stores at Mangalore because a Cessation of Arms was said to have been agreed upon with the Besiegers.

43 We have the pleasure further to add that by a letter which we have lately received from Mr Anderson we are informed that Tippoo Sahib has actually Signified his acquiescence in the Stipulation for peace with the English concluded for him in the 9th Article of the Maratta Treaty by letters which he has expressly written both to the Peshwa and to Madajee Sindia in Reply to their demanding it a Copy of Mr Andersons letter makes a No in the Packet

44 We may now we think Congratulate you on the accomplishment of that so long and Ardently wished for Object a General Peace in Hindostan and give you reason to hope for those natural and flattering consequences which in a Short course of time will follow from the reduction of your Military Expences and from such other Peace arrangements as may seem expedient and the greater leisure of your Governments will enable them to give their attention to for rendering all the Company's possessions flourishing and for rescuing their affairs from that heavy

load of debt which the great extent and duration of the War have brought upon them

45 Immediately after the ratification of the Marratta Treaty at Poona our orders which had been written and left with Mr Anderson for that purpose [had] been dispatched by him to Colonel Charles Morgan Commanding our detachment at Surat to require his instant return to these Provinces, but the arrears due to the man and the approach of the Periodical rains prevented his Commencing his March before the first of this month

Consn
12th May

46 This was a disappointment of our hopes but to prevent any further obstructions from the division or dispersion of his men whom he might find it difficult to collect for the purpose we issued repeated and peremptory orders to him to avoid making [any] detachments whatever from the Force under his Command and he properly and with our approbation resisted different applications which he received from the Presidency of Bombay both for this purpose and to march with his whole Army to Bombay for their Protection [which] had he Complied with in either instance we might have been obliged to Sustain the burthen of that expensive Establishment for another Season

27 May
12 June
3 July

47 The Candahar Cavalry which formed a part of Colonel Charles Morgan's Force has been some time returned into the Vizier's dominions

48 We also expect from the President and Select Committee of Fort St George the return of Colonel Pearse's detachment having repeatedly written to them for that purpose.

Pub Consn 18th
Augt &ca

49 We think it necessary to inform you that the Governor General having received Complaints from the Vizier and his Minister Hyder Beg Cawn against the Conduct of Mr Bristow our Resident at the Court of Owde laid them before us on the 21st of April last with a Copy of his original instructions to Mr Bristow, which tho' known to the Members of the Board at the time when they were given and Sanctified [sic] by their Approbation had not before been recorded from the necessity of preserving them in secrecy

Consn. 21 April

50 These papers being voluminous were circulated for the Consideration of the Members of the Board and on the 19th of May it was resolved to send Copies of the Complaints to Mr Bristow and to require his Answers to them

19th May

51 Mr Bristow acknowledged the receipt of our letter containing these Complaints on the 13th of June and on the 23d of June excused himself for not being able to reply to them earlier under the plea of indisposition His defence which is dated the 30th of July and other letters of explanation from him arrived and have been Considered but as we differed in our opinions upon the Subject of his Proceedings and ma[n]ly Minutes have been recorded in Consequence We beg leave to refer you to our Consultation[s] at large under the following

Consn 23d June

dates and earnestly recommend them to your attentive perusal for which purpose and to save you the trouble of further reference we enclose Complete Extracts Separate Number by this Packet

Consn. 21 Apl.	Viziers and Hyder Begs Complaints Governor General s Original Instructions to Mr Bristow
1783	
12 May	Sundry letters from Mr Bristow to the Board and to the Governor General
10th May	Minutes and Resolution to call on Mr Bristow
22 do,	Further letter from Hyder Beg
	Minutes.
23d June	Mr Bristow s letters dated []
9 July	Do Do Do
24 July	Minutes
28 Do	Further Letters from the Vizier and Hyder Beg
	Minutes
31 Do	Minutes
11 Augt.	Mr Bristows defence
4 Sept	Mr Wheler s opinion
	Mr Stables do
	Mr MacPherson s do
28 Sept	Governor General s do
6 Octr	Do Do
13 do.	Minutes
21 do.	Do

52 These letters will likewise furnish you with Mr Bristow s reports of the present State of the Vizier s Country

53 For the Particulars of the Charges which were prepared against Messrs Middleton and Johnson for their Conduct at Lucknow together with their respective defences and our Several opinions upon them we beg to refer you to the Consultations noted in the margin

54 The directions which you have been Pleased to give in your Commands of the 14th of February last concerning the Begums at Fyzabad have also produced different opinions upon them at this Board which being recorded we must beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for a reply to that part of your letter

55 The 11th and following paragraphs of our said letter respecting the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn cannot be replied to with greater propriety or accuracy than by a reference to the Conclusion of ours of the 5th of April last by the Surprise wherein we informed you of the Treaty Concluded between the Vizier and that Chief to which we have Signed as Guarantees and of the relative Connection of their respective Governments.

56. In reply to the two last Paragraphs of your letter above mentioned we beg leave to inform you that a Minute and Proposal are now

before us from the Governor General for the appointment of an English Resident with the Nabob of Ferruckabad in Compliance with his request Contained in a letter which is also before us We shall advise you of our determination on this Subject by the first opportunity

57 Wishing to give you a Complete and accurate Narrative of the Negotiations which brought about the Treaty with the Marratta State whereof you were particularly advised by our last dispatch we have Collected the whole in a Separate Number with the Correspondence held upon that Subject serving as an appendix to it and beg leave to recommend it to your perusal.

58 The President and Select Committee at Bombay have Stated to us a difficulty which occur'd to them in adjusting the Article of the Marratta Treaty respecting Futtu Sing Guickwar^s as they
 Consn 25th Augt did not comprehend in what manner the final possession of Ahmedabad was intended to be affected by it We have given our interpretation of this Article and instructions accordingly that both the Paishwa and Futtu Sing shall be placed exactly in the same relative Situations with respect to possession and dependance which they stood in before the War

59 Madajee Sindia having persisted in his attack upon the Fort of Gualior with [un]remitted perseverance Sprung a mine by which he made a practicable breach and being
 18 Augt 21 Octr. assisted by the Treachery of the Cutwall took it by Storm on the 1st of August.

60 Independent of any view to the acquisition of Territory Madajee Sindia has manifested great personal enmity
 Consn 21st April against the Rana of Gohud A Vackeel from the Rana arrived here in April last with proposals for the interposition and Guarantee of this Government to effect and secure a Peace between him and Sindia Altho' the Rana had forfeited every claim to our support or goodwill by the treachery of his former Conduct, yet on principles of Policy and Humanity we recommended it to Mr Anderson to use his interposition if Sindia was likely to be influenced by it, to grant him a peace Mr Anderson however met with no success in his attempts to urge such a wish before the fall of Gualior and since that event his brother writes that Sindia had declared his intention to prosecute the War to the extermination of the Rana assigning as a Reason that he had broke his faith so often that he was not to be trusted We thought this a fit occasion to express our interposition more directly to Sindia and therefore directed Mr Anderson to apply to him in our name requesting that he would carry his resentment no further against the Rana in which case we would become Guarantee for the Rana's faithful observance of any Agreement which might be concluded between them

61 Ragonaut Row who by the 6th Article of the Marratta Treaty was to receive protection from Madajee Sindia having left his residence at Surat proceeded as we suppose in Consequence of an invitation from the Ministers at Poona to Narsick where Hurry Punt Furkia⁹ went to meet and

receive him and an allowance of 25000 Rs Per Month was fixed for his maintenance.

62 We have since heard but only from Reports of the Death of
 Consn 16 Sept. the Young Paishwa and the Nomination of the Son of
 Mr Anderson Ragonant Row named Omrut Row¹⁰ to succeed to that
 Consn. 29 Sept. Sovereignty
 do

63 Mr Anderson having been taken with a fit of illness which
 Consn 22d Sept. required a change of climate for his recovery We have
 permitted him to return to the Presidency and appointed
 his Brother Lieutenant James Anderson who was upon the Spot to Succeed
 to the temporary trust of the Station which he held as Resident at Sindia's
 Court.

64. Raja Mandajee Boscala having signified to Mr Chapman his fixed
 intention of making a Visit to Poona and Mr Chapman finding himself treated
 with distance and reserve at his Court for which the Raja himself has
 according by his Fear of the Jealousy of the Superior Government and in
 22d Sept Situations to be of Service to his employers there has re-
 quested and obtained our permission to return to Bengal.

65 We have received letters from Shaw Alum and his Minister
 Mujud o Dowla Soliciting the aid of this Government to settle the antho-
 rity of his Majesty's influence at Delhie and to put an end to the Civil
 wars which were distracting his State. The Governor General at the same
 time Submitted to our Consideration the propriety of interfering with
 effectual assistance to the King for the Accomplishment of this end and
 took that occasion to record the Instructions which he had given to Major
 3d March 1783 James Browne¹¹ on his original deputation to the presence
 in May 1782 and which tho his appointment had been
 noted or recorded were not before entered.

66 On Considering this proposal it did not appear to us immedi-
 ately advisable to send any Forces to the assistance of the King which
 might engage us in fresh trouble and we therefore declined it. For our
 Consn. 29th Sept opinions on this business we beg leave to refer to the
 Consultation noted in the margin

67 Soon afterwards we received accounts from Delhy that Mirza
 Shuffy Cawn nephew of the late Mudjiff Cawn who had been confirmed by
 the King in his uncle's appointments being at the head of one party accom-
 panied by Afrassiah Cawn went out upon their Elephants by appointment
 to have an interview with Mahomed Beg Hamdany the Chief of a Consi-
 derable Body of Forces who had assisted in raising Mirza
 Consn. 3d March Shuffee to the Succession which he had obtained in oppo-
 sition to many Competitors and then taken part against him.

68. Mahomed Beg Amdany was attended by his Nephew Aga Ismael
 and both on Elephants. After saluting Mirza Shuffee they arranged their
 Elephants on each Side of his and by Treachery Assassinated him a fray
 immediately ensued between their Forces who contained [sic] skirmishing
 till dark and a Number were killed on both Sides.

69 We know not yet what consequences this affair may be attended with at [.]. Mr Anderson mentions that Madajee Sindia as soon as he heard of it expressed his indignation and talked of Avenging the deceased with whom he had lately interchanged a Visit of friendship

70 We have received a letter from the Portuguese Government at Goa informing us that they desired to establish a Resident at this place and had accordingly appointed Mr Lewis D'Costa to that Station if he should be agreeable to us In reply we approved of their intention and assured them of every respect and attention to their representative which they could desire but as Mr D'Costa who had long been a resident of this Town did not bear such a Character as we thought worthy of that Confidence but on the Contrary had been lately suspected of conveying intelligence to the French We desired they would nominate some other Person who should be mutually unexceptionable

Fort William,
the 20th October 1783
[Per Nurbudda]

We have the honour to be Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/Edwd Wheler
John Macpherson/John Stables

13

LETTER DATED 28 OCTOBER 1783

Court's attention invited to the letters from the Nawab of Carnatic

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs,

The Governor General having received and this Day laid before us five Letters from the Nabob Wallah Jau, the Dates of which are inserted in the Margin, we have considered them of such Importance to the National Character as well as to the Rights and Situation of that Nabob, that we cannot refrain from making them the Subject of a Letter written specially to your honourable Court by the Packet under Dispatch and Soliciting your particular Attention to his first Letter dated the 27th of last Month which is one of them

Letter dated 15th Sept^r and 2 enclosures
Ditto 26 Sept^r
Ditto 27 Do
Separate do 27 Do.
and one enclosure Letter dated 1st Oct^r and one enclosure

Fort William,
28 October 1783
[Per Nurbudda]

We have the honor to be
Honble Sirs,
Your most faithfull humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/Edwd Wheler/
John Macpherson/John Stables.

LETTER DATED 25 NOVEMBER 1783

Negotiations for peace with Tipu Sultan—restoration of jagirs to the Begams of Oudh

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

1 We had the Honor of addressing you from this Department on the 23d and 28th of last Month by the Nerhudda which was quitted by the Pilot on the 18th Instant We have the Honor of forwarding to you two Copies of these Letters by the Rodney which is now under Dispatch, and with them Transcripts of the several Papers which were Numbers in the Packet

2 The Conclusion of the War ensuring a greater Safety to the Conveyance of our Dispatches to Europe than We could expect during the Continuance of it, We have thought it unnecessary to have any Duplicate prepared of the Broken Sett of our Secret Proceedings transmitted to you by the Nerhudda which are very bulky and We shall in the same Manner revert to the Practice which was in Use before the War began by sending you one Copy of our Proceedings from Time to Time and this in Addition to the Annual Copy which will regularly go by the last Ship of the Season, will We hope be sufficient for your Use A Broken Sett of our Proceedings since the 21st of last Month is sent a Number in this Address.

3 Our Letter to your Honble. Court by the Nerhudda having been signed some Days previous to the Dispatch of that Vessel We transmitted to you for your Information Copies of various Papers mentioned in the List of Packet which had not been received when our Letter was closed

4 In the Number of these Papers were a Letter received from the Right Honble the President and Select Committee at Fort St George dated the 14th of last Month with its several Inclosures in Relation to the Peace under Negotiation with Tippoo Sultan and a Copy of Letter to Us from Mr David Anderson which laid before Us the Substance of the Proposals for Peace with the English which Tippoo had sent to Nana Furna vesse and Nana to Madajee Sindia, and the Translation of a Letter which Sindia had in Consequence written to Tippoo We also forwarded the Translation of a Letter which Tippoo had addressed to the Honble the Governor General.

5 The Important Subject of these several Papers requiring our immediate Attention and Decision upon the Terms on which Peace ought to be concluded with Tippoo We lost no Time in taking them into our immediate Consideration and giving our Orders upon them. We had before Us also our Treaty with the Maratta State, the 6th Article of which

contains a Stipulation of the Terms on which the Marattas agree to compel Tippoo to a Peace, and the Preliminaries of Peace between their Britannic and Most Christian Majesties, the 16th Article of which provides likewise for the Object of Peace with him who is the only Power in India at Enmity with the Company

6 It took but little Time to determine that the 9th Article of the Treaty with the Maratta State, laid the Foundation of the Terms which We should agree to with Tippoo Sahib, and as these required only a Surrender of the Places which he had taken, a mutual Restitution of Prisoners on both Sides, and a Cessation of Hostilities between us, while he abstained from Hostilities against Us on his Part, there seemed to be no Occasion for a separate and specific Treaty with him, since none could add to the validity of that by which Peace with him had been actually stipulated through the Maratta State, but as the Spirit of your last Instructions enjoin a more than ordinary Exertion on our part to render the Peace not only effectual but speedy in its Accomplishment, as it was Tippoo's Wish to enter into a direct Engagement with the Company, as the Presidency of Madras had resolved to depute Persons to him for that Purpose, and as the Preliminaries of Peace between the Courts of London and Paris tended to render that Peace perpetual which was left indefinite in its Duration by the Terms of the Treaty with the Marattas which might be extended, but could not be violated by a separate Agreement with Tippoo not offensive in any Part of it, We authorized the Gentlemen at Fort St George to conclude a Treaty with him, and sent them particular Instructions for that Purpose

Consn 14 Novr A Copy of these Instructions is sent a Number in this Packet together with a Translation of the Reply which the Governor General at our Request has sent to Tippoo's Letter, and We beg leave to refer them to your particular Attention

7 While these were under Consideration the Governor General received a Letter from Mr Anderson, a Copy of which goes a Number also in this Address, with which he transmitted the Translation of a separate Treaty executed by himself and Sindia, on the 28th of last Month on Behalf of the Company and the Peshwa, on the Grounds of the 9th Article of that of Lalley, for an Alliance with the Marattas against Tippoo Sahib in the Event of his not abiding by that Article, and stipulating the Conditions on which the Acquisitions made by the united Forces of the two States were to be divided

8 Considering this separate Treaty as merely eventual, and as binding the Company only in the Case of the Marattas commencing Hostilities against Tippoo Sahib, after his Refusal to accept the Terms which We have declared ourselves willing to yield for Peace with him, We have approved and confirmed it

9 A Letter has been received and laid before Us by the Governor General from the Nabob Nizam Ul Mulk, which indicates a Wish on the Part of his Highness to Act with Us and the Marattas against Tippoo on the Terms formerly proposed to him for this Purpose, and repeats his Claim

to Payment of the Arrears of the Peshcush. The Reply written to him by the Governor General with our Advice informs him of the Terms on which We have agreed to make Peace with Tippoo and of Tippoo's apparent Readiness to make Peace with Us, but promises in the Event of his not agreeing to the Terms, and of a Resumption of Hostilities between Us, that We will apply to his Highness not only for his Advice but his Assistance, in taking other Measures for bringing that Chief to Terms With respect to the Arrears of the Peshcush the Time is not yet come at which We have promised to discharge them. We have however again repeated our solemn most solemn, Declaration of the Justness of the Demand and promised to answer it as soon as we are able. Translation of the Nazim's Letter Consn. 14 Novr and of the Governor General's Answer to it are sent Numbers in this Packet.

10 We have received a Letter from Mr Bristow since the Dispatch of our last Letter to your Honble Court dated the 1st of this Month, a Copy of which We have the Honor to transmit for your Perusal and We beg leave to refer it to your particular attention.

11 In our Address by the Nerbudda We had the Honor of acquainting you that a Question had arisen at our Board on your Letter of the 14th of February respecting the Begums at Fayzabad.¹ We have now the Pleasure to acquaint you that your Wishes in Relation to their Jaghires have been supported by the Viceroy himself who has desired that their Jaghires may be restored to them. A Copy of his Letter to the Governor General is transmitted for your Perusal and Information in this Dispatch

12 We have the honor of transmitting to you two Letters from the Nabob of Arcot to the Honble the Governor General which we beg Leave to recommend to your Particular Attention.

Fort William,
20th November 1783
[Per Rodney]

We have the honor to be Honble. Sirs
Your most faithful humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/Edwd. Wheeler

15

LETTER DATED 30 NOVEMBER 1783

Negotiations with Tipu Sultan—steps taken to relieve scarcity of grain in Madras—discord between Fort William and Fort St George authorities

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble. Sirs

1 We had the Honor of addressing You by the Rodney on the 25th Instant and now forward to You by the Ship Worcester a Copy of our Proceedings on the 21th Instant, and Copies of our former Letters.

2 Since the Dispatch of the Originals the Governor General has laid before Us a Letter which he has received from our Resident at Goa bearing Date the 4th of last Month accompanied by Copies and Extracts of sundry Letters which had reached him from the Officers Commanding at Onore and Carwar of which We have the Honor to transmit a Transcript for your Perusal with this Address

3 We have also the Honor to send Numbers in the Packet a Copy of a Letter which We have lately received from the President and Council at Fort St George Dated the 1st of Last Month, accompanied by Extracts of their Proceedings on the orders which We sent them on the 15th of August for the Surrender of the Assignment of the Revenues of the Carnatic to the Nabob Walau Jah, and of a Letter written in Consequence of them by the Right Honble the President to the Nabob

4 On these Papers as they furnish no new Argument that requires our Refutation of it We have nothing at present to suggest though We beg Leave to repeat our earnest Request that You will be pleased to attend very particularly to the Motives and Reasons which We have assigned in our former Letters for the Orders given on the Subject of them, and particularly to our Consultations of the 21st and 30th of July, 11th August, and 13th of October

5 We transmit likewise for your Information a Copy of a Letter which We have received from the Right Honble the President and Select Committee at Madras and of the Commission and Instructions enclosed in it to Anthony Sadlier and George Leonard Staunton Esquires deputed by them to the Nabob Tippoo Sultan

6. You will have been informed from our Public Department of the Distress which the Inhabitants of these Provinces were about to suffer from the serious Calamity of a Scarcity of Grain,¹ and of that which the Inhabitants of the Provinces beyond them do actually suffer on the same Account.

7 From the Regard which every Government pays to the Commercial Engagements and Concerns of the Individuals residing under its Protection and to the natural Expectations of the Inhabitants of Fort St George who look to be supplied with Grain from this Port the Embargo which has been laid ought if possible to have been brought about gradually that neither might suffer Loss or Disappointment, but the Urgency of the Case obliged Us to dispense with this Term and to enforce the Embargo immediately and totally The Quantity prepared for Exportation which was either on Hand or expected and Tonnage provided for it was enormous being no less than 11,00,000 Maunds To part with the whole would have brought on instant Distress and a partial Exportation would have excited Clamours, and Representations which in a case of such imminent Concern and Dread We durst not hazard without the strongest and most evident Warrant The Scarcity known to be real in the Western Provinces, and actually experienced in Bengal, whether from real or artificial Causes, had created such an alarming Apprehension that nothing less than the most instant and effectual Exertions of

Government could have appeased the Fears of the People or brought forth the hoarded and hidden Grain into general Consumption. Yet We could not be too wary in forming a Resolution of such Importance Two Alternatives of great Moment struck Us, and required the most serious Deliberation.

8. On the one Hand admitting the Scarcity to have been artificial it was founded on the Certainty of such a Calamity existing in the Western Districts, and the Effects of an uncom[mon] and universal Drought throughout the whole and the shocking Experience of a Famine in the Year 1770^a was still fresh in the Memories of most People. If under such Appearances We had allowed the Exportation of Grain to the Coast to be continued and a Famine had really ensued our Forbearance would have been alledged as contributing to the Cause of it, and We should have received the General Exorations of the famished Multitude while We remained the passive Spectators of a Scene of Distress and Depopulation all around Us without being able to mitigate its Rigor at that late Period For Bengal in the Event of a General Failure of its Crops has no other Resort for Grain but to its former Stores and these had already been greatly exhausted by the extraordinary Supplies sent to Madras in the two last Seasons besides We had to expect additional Calls upon Us from the Western Inhabitants flocking into Bahar

9 On the other Hand We saw and allowed every Weight to the Distress and Difficulties which might be suffered at Madras from suddenly stopping the Source of their Supplies of Grain from Bengal and were sensible that such a Measure would incur the severest Censure of that Government but in adopting it We might quote the Example of their own Subordinate Settlements who about the same Time in Consequence of the extraordinary Drought which had deprived Vizagapatam and Ganjam and the Appearance of Failure in the Harvest of those Countries laid an Embargo on the Exportation of Grain even to their own Presidency Yet the Necessity or Importance of their reserving the Stores of Grain for the Consumption of their own Districts can bear no Degree of Comparison to the superior Exigency and Importance of it here as Bengal may have many of the Inhabitants of the extensive Regions lying between this and Lahore to feed from its own Stores for a Year to come

10 A timely Fall of Rain in the Northern Circars has saved the Crops as We understand, and induced the Chiefs of Vizagapatam and Ganjam to take off the Embargo which they had laid The Necessities of the Presidency of Fort St. George may therefore be supplied from those Parts and from their Southern Countries in the same Manner and as free from Obstruction as before the War but because these Supplies cannot be abundant We shall give every Encouragement to Ships going to the Coast of Aracan, Pego Siam and other Eastern Ports to procure Grain for their Relief.

11 You will judge for Us on the Propriety of our Conduct on this Occasion. We expect that it will be stated to You by the Right Honble. the President and Council at Fort St. George in the language of Complaint and

Reproach nor do We expect that they will abstain even from Invective for such is the Return We receive to all our Acts whether We decline to comply with their Demands, or Distress ourselves to relieve them After deploring what they have been pleased to term our Personal Indisposition towards them as a severe Misfortune they have thought proper to observe in one of their late Letters that "If We continue to diminish our Remit-

Letter From Fort
St George
22 Sept
13 October

tances to them while the Demands upon them and their consequent Distresses are increasing they shall be thought to have public Motives also for deploring that Personal Indisposition" The Construction is obvious,

indeed every Action of ours whatever may have been its object in Effect nay even our most strenuous Endeavours exerted to support and assist them have been ascribed to improper Motives or ultimately found Fault with, but your Judgements are too liberal to be influenced by such partial Complaint and Representations or to suppose that a Public Body to whom You have committed the general Superintendence and Controul of your Affairs in India could be biassed by any personal Considerations whatever to prejudice so important a Trust especially by Means the Contemplation of which is shocking to Humanity We beg to assure You once for all that no private Feelings or Provocations never have nor never shall operate to affect our Public Measures though We have long had sufficient Cause for their Existence The extensive Contracts We had made before the Embargo to ensure the Transportation of Grain to Madras in the present Season and at their earnest Entreaties is a convincing Proof if any were necessary of the Truth of this Assertion

12 Under the most distressed Situation of the Garrison of Madras, when the Enemy was at their Walls, and by his Ravages in every Part of the adjacent Country had destroyed the

1781

Cattle and reduced the Inhabitants to the most pressing Difficulty to obtain the common Necessaries of Life from no other Motive than a Desire to relieve them from this State of Want which in all Appearance was rather likely to encrease than diminish and urged by repeated Demands from Sir Eyre Coote then in Command of the Army in the Carnatic for Bullocks We entered into Contracts with Mr S Touchet for supplying them by Sea with Bullocks, Sheep and Salt Provisions No sooner had the Enemy been driven from their Neighbourhood by the noble and victorious Exertions of the late General Sir Eyre Coote aided by the Troops We had sent to their Assistance than the Right Honble the President and Council

Ltr 4th
Jany. 1782
11th Feby.

adopting the Sentiments of their Garrison Store Keeper passed a strong Censure upon the Design and Engagement

by comparing the Prices and Expence of Cattle intended to have been sent by difficult and untried Means for their Relief with the actual Rates of those which a fortunate Change of their Affairs had enabled them to procure from the circumjacent Country with which when the Contracts were formed they had no Communication Both ourselves and the Contractor were glad to be released from the Contract

13 The Forces We sent to their Assistance have in many Instances been pointedly neglected A preferable Distinction has been made in favour of their own Native Troops in the Article of Pay and our Corps have been allowed to undergo the hard Service of dangerous and disagreeable Campaigns at a Distance from Home without any one Attention or Indulgence to soften the Rigor of such a Situation in so much that the Sepoys who have returned from that Service have by their Reports of it thrown it into such universal Disrepute and raised such a General Disgust against it that when it was attempted to send a Reinforcement of Sepoys to the Coast the Battalion absolutely and unanimously refused to march yet it is well known that the Corps of Bengal Sepoys at Madras have been a very principal Part of their Dependence and the Governor General begs to have it added that when he personally proposed to Sir Eyre Coote their Recall the General replied in these or Words to this Effect They are the Flower of our Army and if You deprive me of them You deprive me of my chief Dependence And how the Commander in Chief was himself treated by that Government after he had so zealously engaged in their Assistance and so effectually exerted himself for the Retrieval of their Affairs from the desperate State to which they had been reduced is already before You in many Instances which are too obvious and too notorious not to have drawn your Attention to the cruel Return which they have made to his meritorious Services, and continued to his latest Hour by the most unexampled Insults obtruded when the Sense of Shame would have checked the Impulse of ordinary Cruelty on his Death Bed

14. On another Occasion the Cost of the Grain which in the Height of a raging Famine We sent for their Subsistence was compared upon false Premises to the Rate of a Contract entered into by them with Captain Mercer which in Fact upon a more exact Comparison far exceeded the former Supply the whole of which they only gave Us Credit for at the Invoiced Amount, Altho the same Grain would always have sold in the Market for a very considerable Advance and al though they were at one Time actually paying 200 Pogodas Per Garco for the like Kind of Rice to Individuals, a Rate equal to double the Amount of Rice supplied by Us and not content with making the above inapplicable Comparison they complained at different Times of the bad Quality of the Grain consigned to them In the only Instance in which the Complaint was particular and applied, and Musters some of which were of indifferent Quality were sent to Us We find that these have been particularly chosen for neither the Captain nor any of his Officers were present at the Selection of them whereas they differ widely from those which the late Agent has delivered to Us as true Musters certified by the Testimony of the People who weighed and shipped the Rice and which appear to be very good, and that Part of it which they complain of as having been damaged (though only 164 Bags out of upwards of 5000) is declared by Captain Lenox to have

Lr 21st Decr
1782. Conan. 10th
Jany 1783 Agents
Reply 3rd. Feby
1783 Board's
Reply 3d. March.
November 1782.

Captn Lenox's
Letter Dated 14th
Novr Pub.
Conan. 24 Novr

been caused by the whole lying on the Beach for several weeks and heavy Rain falling during that Interval

15 In another Instance the Right Honble the President and Council at Fort St George have thrown every Obstacle and Objection in the Way of establishing a constant and useful Mode of Remittance to them by Bills through the various Channels of Hyderabad, Aurungabad, Nagpore &c We had no other Motive in projecting this Measure than their Benefit and great Pains were bestowed in bringing it about In the first Essay of such a Plan the natural and only Means of furnishing Resources for its regular Accomplishment were by the Transportation of Bullion from Place to Place until the reciprocal Wants of Individuals and the Habits of Business had established a readier and easier Mode of Negotiation and consequently the original Terms were unavoidably high though less unfavourable than the Remittance by Specie for the Ratio on the first Bills was but 10 Per Cent without a Risk, and the aggregate Loss of the Transportation of Bullion by Sea inclusive of the Risk of which the common Insurance was 10 Per Cent, was nearly equal to 15 Per Cent, but of this We treated more largely in our last Letter from the Public Department, Indeed the Right Honble the President and Council at Fort St George have even complained of Deficiencies in our Remittance of Gold Bullion which to prevent any Possibility of Complaint We had ordered to be deprived of all Alloy and refined to the greatest possible Degree of Purity in order to admit of their tempering it as they thought proper to bring it to the Pagoda Standard, as their Mint Master had declared his Inability to coin it when prepared of that Standard by our Mint Master here

16 We briefly mention these several Facts to point out how prone the Right Honble the President and Council at Fort St George have been to complain of, and to reprobate all our Measures undertaken only for their Advantage, and that We might prepare You against the Effects, which the Tendency of such a Spirit displayed in the Height of Services rendered by Us may attempt to produce upon your Minds at a Season when those Services have from Necessity slackened, and We fear they will consequently think themselves neglected, but to elucidate the Facts We enclose sundry Papers from the late Agent for Supplies to which We beseech your Attention

17 We must add another Example of this unnatural Spirit in the Reception of the Maratta Treaty which they have censured for not containing an Indemnification for the Expences of the War with Hyder, and a Compensation for the immense Losses sustained by the Inhabitants and Government of the Carnatic notwithstanding their urgent and indiscreet Instructions to Mr David Anderson to precipitate the Conclusion of the

See the Commis- same Treaty though with every Sacrifice to save them
sion and Instr- from impending Destruction And instead of availing
uctions to Messrs themselves of it since, they have studiously depreciated
Sadleir & it even with the Power on which it impressed the instant
Staunton Obligation of unconditional peace by avoiding even the slightest Use of it

or Allusion to it in the Negotiation with Tippoo Saib

We have the honor to be

Honble Sirs

Your most obedient humble Servants

Warren Hastings/Edwd Wheler/

John Stables.

Fort William
30th Novr 1783
[Per Worcester]

16

LETTER DATED 31 DECEMBER 1783

*Fort St. George refuse to restore revenues to the Nawab of Carnatic—
resentment against Fort St. George for their peace negotiations with Tipu
Sultan—British Residency withdrawn from Lucknow*

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble.
United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble. Sirs

1 The departure of your Ships Atlas and Barwell to England affords us an opportunity of transmitting to you Copies of the last Letters which we had the Honor of writing to you on the 23d and 30th of last Month by the Rodney and Worcester and of forwarding to you a continuation of our Proceedings from the Period of our last Dispatch to this Day inclusive They attend you Numbers in this Packet.

2 Mr Auriol our late Secretary having resigned the Service, and returned to Europe in the Ship Winterton Mr Hay has taken charge of the Office of Secretary to this Department and of that which includes the business of the Foreign Notions, according to the appointment which we conferred on him on the 23d of September, when, for the reasons given in our Consultations of that date we determined to place the Public and Secret Departments under the charge of different Gentlemen, and to give the charge of the Public Department to Mr William Bruere and that of the Secret to Mr Edward Hay

3 We have at length received a Letter from the President and Council at Fort St. George in reply to our Requisition of them to give Effect to our Resolution to surrender the Assignment of the Revenues of the Carnatic to its lawful Sovereign the Nabob Mahomed Ally They have determined against the propriety or expediency of giving up the Assignment at this time and that no Act of ours might militate against your wishes and Intentions a Communication of which is daily expected and as they have referred to orders which the

Select Committee have received from your Honble Court under date the 5th September 1782, of which however we have not been Honored with any intimation or Copy from you, we have resolved not to take any further Measures with respect to the Assignment until your further Instructions on this Subject shall arrive unless the Exigency of Affairs in the Carnatic shall force us to a more speedy Determination, and your Presidency at Madras has been informed accordingly

4 One of the Evils which we apprehended from the Usurpation of the Government of the Carnatic by your President and Select Committee at Fort St George has already come to pass, We refer for an instance of it to their Proceedings of the 27th September wherein you will observe the Conversation said to have passed between Messrs Sadher and Staunton and Mr Bussy, at Cuddalore in respect to the annihilated power of the Nabob, and the immediate Effects of surprize and Alarm such extraordinary Declarations from the Commissioners had on Mr Bussy.

5 In consequence of the opinions delivered by the Members of the Council at Fort St George, when our orders for the Surrender of the Assignment were under consideration, Lord Macartney addressed a Letter to the Nabob desiring to be informed of the Names of such responsible Persons as were willing to Enter into the proper obligations for securing Payment into the Companys Treasury, according to our Agreement with Assam Cawn in January last, of one third more in the same given time than had been collected under the Authority of the Assignment, in Case the Revenues should be restored to his Highness's management, that such Persons might be examined before the Board and their validity considered

6. The Nabobs reply to Lord Macartney's Letter has been sent by his Highness to the Governor General, and is recorded on
 Consn 27th Decr our Proceedings noted in the Margin, and we beg leave to draw your Attention to this Letter as well as to the Representations made in the other Letters from the Nabob to the Governor General which are entered in the same Place

7. We have already had the Honor to transmit to you a Copy of the Letter which we received from the Select Committee at Fort St George dated the 31st October enclosing Transcripts of their Commission and Instructions to Messrs Sadlier and Staunton, who were sent on a Deputation to the Nabob Tippoo Sultan to conclude a Peace and obtain the release of the English Prisoners, and you will have before you ere you
 Consn 31st Decr receive this, our Instructions written to and acknowledged to have been received by the Madras Presidency in respect to the Terms on which we authorized them to conclude a Peace with Tippoo, and the Agreement entered into by Mr Anderson with Mahajee Sindia for an Alliance between the Company and the Maratta State against Tippoo, which is to take Effect if Tippoo should refuse to accede to the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey With respect to this Treaty the Conditions of which were on its Conclusion much applauded by the Right

Honble. President and Select Committee at Fort St. George, we have already complained to your Honble Court and we have done so also to the Gentlemen at that Presidency that they have totally and, we may now add purposely overlooked it in their Instructions to their Deputies. We are now at liberty to say that they have purposely overlooked it in those Instructions because we observe in their Proceedings of the 7th of October which have come to us very lately that one of their Members and that Member one of the Deputies also, delivered an opinion that the Maratta Treaty ought to be one of the Grounds on which Peace should be concluded with Tippoo Sahib Your Honble Court well knows that the 9th Article of it fixed the Outline of Peace with him if he desired Peace with a Denunciation of War from the Marattas who were then his Allies if he refused it, and we imagine that in a dread of the consequences of not acceding to that Article will be found the real motive for his Advances to the accomplishment of such Object. We believe that the Peace in Europe would otherwise have had but little operation on this Chief's Measures. The exclusion of the Treaty of Salbey as a Ground of a Negotiation cannot remain unknown to the Marattas it may be offensive to them and without the greatest caution on our part, might lead to consequences of a very disagreeable Nature

8 At the intended Period for the Departure of the Deputies from Fort St. George, News arrived of the Seizure of General Macleod (which however proved afterwards unfounded) and of a Breach on the part of Tippoo Sahib of the Convention for a Cessation of Hostilities at Mangalore by his refusal to allow of supplies of Provisions to the Garrison, and the Departure of the Deputies was consequently postponed but Tippoo's Agents producing a Letter from their Master which induced a belief that the Reports were not true it was agreed that the Deputies should proceed and they took their Departure from Madras on the 9th of last Month On their arrival at the Encampment of Meer Mohud deen Cawn the Commander of Tippoo's Troops in the Carnatic, they are represented to have been received with every Mark of respect and attention After a delay of some days Mohun deen Cawn consented to withdraw his Army from the Carnatic and accordingly proceeded with the Commissioners towards the Gaults, an Arrangement took place by which it was mutually agreed that the Forts and Districts of Comboon in the Cudapah Country, on our part, and of Chittaput in the Carnatic, on the part of Tippoo Sultan should be immediately evacuated and Tippoo has since given orders to Meer Mohud deen Cawn to relinquish and deliver over all the Forts of the Carnatic and to come to him with the Commissioners promising on their arrival to release all the English Prisoners who should return with the Deputies to Madras.

9 Col. Fullarton having received Official Information from Tellicherry, of a Breach of faith in Tippoo and a recommencement of Hostilities against Mangalore, moved with his Army towards Palacacherry for

the Reduction of a Place represented to be of essential importance and at the same time to produce if possible a Diversion in favor of Mangalore. He succeeded against the Place and took it on the 14th of last Month. Leaving Captain Dewar with the 19th Battalion in charge of it, He
 Consn
 31st Decr
 marched with his Army for Coimbatore which he reduced on the 25th The date of his Letter on this Subject to the Right Honble the President and Select Committee at Fort St George, is the 26th of last Month, and in that Letter he expresses his intention of marching immediately to Satimungalum the possession of which would give you the Command of the whole Country on the Carnatic Side of the Gauts, and render you also Masters of the Guzhhuty Pass

10. It cannot however be doubted that long ere this Col Fullarton has discontinued all offensive operations in consequence of the Directions of the Commissioners for that purpose, and it is to be hoped that the Exertions which he has made, and the approach of your Southern Army towards the Malabar Coast, will have prevented Tippoo Sultan from pursuing his designs against Mangalore, and made him look to his own safety in a speedy accommodation with the Company and the Nabob of the Carnatic

We have related the Events as we have received Intimation of them, but wish not to give any opinion of the propriety or impropriety of the orders under which Col Fullarton Acted

11 The perfidious conduct of Tippoo in refusing supplies to the Garrisons of Mangalore and Onore and the Distresses of those Garrisons, particularly the former, had so operated on General Macleod, who had made repeated but unsuccessful Efforts to prevail upon him to Act according to the Convention, that he was determined to relieve Mangalore at all Risques, and being assisted by the Admiral, who arrived with his Fleet at Tellicherry on the 4th and 5th of last Month, was, as Colonel Fullarton informed your Select Committee at Madras, about to Sail on the 13th of it to Mangalore in order to force his way into the Place and to save it from the Efforts of Tippoo Saheb, by whom the Garrison was very closely pressed

12 We yet trust that Tippoo has been brought to reason, and that he has made it unnecessary for General Macleod to pursue Measures of necessity against him It is as much for his Interest as it can be for ours, not to recommence Hostilities We wish most anxiously for Peace, and when once concluded it shall be our study to preserve it, but any Peace with Tippoo Saheb we think can be no longer lasting than it is his Interest to permit it That your Presidency of Bombay may be prepared for any Event of emergency we have given them permission to draw on us for fifteen Lacs of Rupees

13 Some differences having unfortunately arisen between the Commissioners in their opinions on a Claim made, as we understand by Tippoo's Ministers of the unconditional delivery of Mangalore to him, in which Mr Sadher was for compliance with it, and Mr Staunton against it,

the Right Honble the President and Select Committee, apprehending very prejudicial delays from such differences in future should they again occur by the necessity of referring to them for decision upon them and approving Mr Staunton's Conduct, have joined Mr Hindleston their Secretary to the Commission, and vested their authority in any two Members, directing that in Case of a difference of opinion the dissenting Member shall put his Signature to the Acts of the Majority but that nevertheless two Signatures shall be sufficient to authenticate any of their Acts.

14. We beg leave to request your attention [to] the several Letters and Papers from Fort St George recorded on our Proceedings of this day as they are full as to all matters which respected the Negotiation with Tippoo and the Correspondence with the Marquis de Bussy The whole is not yet before us in a clear Chain of Proceedings but the Gentlemen at Fort St George have assured us that what remains to be transacted shall be transmitted to Us without delay

15 In our Consultations noted in the Margin, you will observe a Letter from Major General Stuart dated the 9th of October, in which the General represents to us the Loss which he has sustained in his private Fortune, from the Resentment of the Madras Government, and especially from their Conduct in regard to a large Quantity of Grain which he provided on a Critical occasion for the Public Service in last Year General Stuart declares to us that he derived not any Personal benefit directly or indirectly from this supply but we have it not in our power nor if we had, does it belong to us to relieve him, it rests therefore with your Honble Court

We think that General Stuart's Claim on the Company for the reimbursement of his Loss, is reasonable and Just supposing the Facts to be as he has stated them and beg leave to recommend it in strong Terms to your favourable attention. The Correspondence enclosed in General Stuart's Letter to us and on which he in a great Measure founds his Pretensions to repayment is transmitted to you a Number in this Address

16. Mr David Anderson having on account of his very bad state of Health found it necessary to return to the Presidency after having received our Permission for that Purpose Lieut Anderson his Brother, has in consequence of our appointment received charge of his Station as Resident with Mahajee Sindia.

17 Col. Morgan having received Passports from Nann Furnaveso for his Detachment to March thro the Maratta Dominions he left Surat on the 1st Ultimo We have a Letter from him dated the 8th from Sonnegur, and we have private Intelligence that, when Sindia's Coahids passed Boraunpore the Detachment was within one Stage of that Place, this we suppose may have been about the Sixth Instant

18. Our late Letters have informed you of the differences which have Subsisted in our opinions with respect to Mr Bristow's Conduct at Lucnow; The Letters from Mr Bristow as well as the complaints of the Vizier and his Minister, shew clearly the State of the Dispute; Your Troops in Oude

fell several Months in Arrears, the Claims upon the Vizier independant of the Current Kists amounted to upwards of 53 Lacs of Rupees, a Famine had begun to prevail in his Country, and Evils of the most Alarming Nature were to be apprehended We refer to our Proceedings for Particulars The Majority of our Members supported Mr Bristows Conduct the Governor General condemned it Differences at our own Board, and these Differences known in the Viziers Dominions, could not but add to the Public Distress The Representations from the Vizier and his Minister as well as Mr Bristow continued as strong as ever The Governor General called on the Majority to determine what should be done, His Instructions to Mr Bristow were declared by the Governor General to be cancelled by his revocation of them, and the Majority of the Board were required to furnish Mr Bristow with New The Majority resolved to take the matter into their serious consideration, and on the 28th Instant delivered in a Minute

Consn 27th Decr. which with the Governor Generals answer to it, the Reply from Mr Wheler, Mr Macpherson and Mr Stables, and that from the Governor General accepting the Proposition of the Majority we have the Honor to send Numbers in this Packet

Consn 31st Decr The result is, that we have resolved to withdraw the Residency from Lucknow, and to confirm the Governor Generals acceptance of responsibility and charge of affairs there, as expressed in his last Minute, that is, that the offer made by the Nabob Vizier and his Minister to give the security of Bankers of known Credit and Responsibility for the Payment of the Balance due to the Company, and for the Current Demands of this Year be accepted with the Condition annexed of the Recall of Mr Bristow and Mr Cooper, the Governor General consenting to be specially answerable for the Propriety of the Measure But when we remove the Residency from Lucknow, we reserve to Mr Bristow his Claim and Right to that Office by your Orders, should such Office be deemed hereafter necessary We have the Honor to transmit to you a Copy of our Letter to Mr Bristow on this Occasion.

19 We have the Honor to acquaint you that in consequence of the Directions implied in your Letter to us of the 14th of Febry last, of the Distresses of the District of Ferocabad the strong representations on this Subject from the Nabob Mazuffer Jung, and his dissatisfaction as well as

Consn 6th Octr. that of the Vizier with the Sezawul appointed to remit the Tribute from thence to Lucknow, We some time since appointed Mr John Willis to be Resident on the part of this Government with the Nabob Mazuffer Jung not doubting that the Vizier will confirm

Consn 27th Decr our choice of this Gentleman, and for this purpose a Letter has been addressed to his Excellency by the Governor General.

We have the Honor to be,

Honble Sirs,

Your most faithful, humble Servants,

Warren Hastings/Edwd Wheler/

John Macpherson.

Fort William,
31st December 1783
[Per Barwell]

P.S 1st January 1784

The Governor General having just received a Letter from Lieutt. Anderson which we deem of Importance We think it necessary to transmit you an Extract of it a Number in this Dispatch

W H /E W /J.McP

17

LETTER DATED 15 JANUARY 1784

Death of Raghunath Rao—Maratha preparations for attack on Tippu Sultan

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs

1 Your Ships Halsewell Talbot and Ceres being now under Dispatch, We have the Honor to transmit to You by these Convoynances Copies of our last Advices from this Department bearing Date the 31st of last Month.

2 Nothing material has come before Us since that Period excepting some Advices received by the Governor General from Masulipatam of the Death of Ragonaut Row The Account is particular with Respect to the Time and Place at which his Death happened but until the News be confirmed from other Quarters We cannot take upon Us to pronounce it certain having often been deceived by Reports of a similar Nature, which were found by subsequent Advices to be without Foundation. We enclose an Extract of a Letter from Mr James Grant, late your Minister at Hyderabad to the Governor General which contains the only Advices which have yet reached Us of Ragobah's Death

3 We had the Honor of sending you in our last Packet an Extract of a Letter from Lieut. Anderson to the Governor General by which it appeared that Purneram Bow¹ had been deputed from Poonah with a Body of Troops to attack the Fort of Meritz which had been captured from the Marattas in the late Contest between them and Hyder Ally That an additional Number of Men with a Train of Artillery were preparing to be sent after him, with all possible Expedition, and that Hurry Punt Furkia was ordered to be in Readiness to march with the main Army We transmit to You a Number in this Dispatch further Advices from Lieut. Anderson on this Subject, which are generally confirmed to Us by Intelligence from Mr James Grant who writes that Furkia encamped on the 15th Ullo (November) in the Neighbourhood of Poonah, and that Orders

had been issued to all the Maratta Chiefs, and particularly to Moodajee Boosla, to join his Standard, with Intent to proceed to the Southward to influence a Peace in the Carnatic, That Nizam Ally had been invited to take a Part on the Occasion, and that it was not improbable that His Highness would second the Views of the Poonah Ministry, particularly, if a Report which prevailed, were true, that Meer Moghut, His Highness's Brother had escaped from his Confinement in Raichore—and taken Protection with Tippoo "

4 The Nazim's Intention to take a Part with the Maratta State against Tippoo, on an Invitation from the Marattas, appears by a strong Implication at least, in His Highness's Letter to the Governor General recorded in our Proceedings of 14th November, and already transmitted to You

5 We learn from Lieut. Anderson that the Draft of the separate Treaty between his Brother and Madajee Scindia, for an Alliance against Tippoo, if the latter refused to accede to the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey, had been highly approved at Poonah, and that Nana Furnavese who regretted the Return of your Troops under Col Morgan because they might have been usefully employed in the Prosecution of the War against Tippoo Saib, was very hopeful that Scindia himself would hasten to Poonah, and prevail on the Colonel and Army to accompany him Lieut Anderson further acquaints Us that Scindia was anxious to be informed of our Resolutions in Regard to a Detachment to act against Tippoo, and that he would not suffer the War with the Rana of Gohud to detain him an hour from proceeding with it in Person to Poonah The Advices from Lieut Anderson on this Subject are contained in his Letter to the Governor General, of which a Copy is enclosed for your Information

6 We cannot resolve on any Measures to be taken in consequence of the foregoing Intelligence until We know the Event of the Deputation to Tippoo from your Presidency at Fort St George, but We are induced to be very hopeful of a Peace with that Chief, because his Alarms at the Preparations which are making against him, to take Effect if he should not accede to the Treat[y] of Salbey, will urge him to the speedy Conclusion of it on the Terms of that Treaty

7 Having since the Date of our last Advices, received from Fort St George a Copy of the Correspondence which was wanting in their former Dispatches to Us, between the Right Honble President and Select Committee, and Mons Bussy, and of their Proceedings in Respect to the Negotiations with Tippoo, for the Month of November, We have the Honor to transmit them Numbers in this Packet

Fort Willam,
15th Janry, 1784
[Per Halsewell]

We have the Honor to be,
Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/Edwd Wheler.

LETTER DATED 7 FEBRUARY 1784

Peace negotiations with Tipu—Maratha co-operation thought desirable—Nizam's claim to peshkash for Northern Sarkars—Vazir's affairs—Governor General's intended visit to Lucknow—threat of Sikh invasion.

TO the Hon ble Court of Directors.

Hon ble Sirs

1 Our last Address was dated the 15th of last Month and transmitted by your Ships Halswell Ceres & Talbot. The Lord Macartney being now under Sailing Orders we shall do ourselves the Honour of sending you Copies of that Letter and acquainting you with what has passed in this Department since the Period of our last Dispatch

2 The Neptune being under Orders to proceed to Bussorah for the Conveyance of our Advices which are to be transmitted to you from thence over land as well as for the Conveyance to us of any public Dispatches that may have arrived or shall arrive there from England we shall have the Honour of forwarding to you this Day by that Opportunity a short Abstract of the Letter which we addressed to you by the Ships that have sailed in the Course of the present Season

3 The Lord Macartney Packet will take the Broken Sett of our Proceedings in this Department including those of our last Meeting, and their Index

4 The last Advices which We have received from your Presidency of Cons. 3d. February Fort St George are dated the 11th Ulto by which it appears that the Commissioners appointed to make Peace with Tippoo were on the 2nd of that Month at Malikkorri within a few Miles of Seringapatam and in hopes of seeing Tippoo very soon, but whether their Interview was to be at that Place or Mangalore was not then fixed. They were every Moment however in expectation of a Letter from Tippoo in Answer to one which they had written to him on that Subject. Your Select Committee informed us that the Commissioners complained that the Vakeels, who accompanied them had often led them out of the great Road through inconvenient and difficult Passes whether occasioned by a Jealousy of their communicating with any of the Prisoners or by a desire of giving an Impression of the difficulty of the Country or by particular Orders your Select Committee did not know but the Deviation was so frequent that the Deputies could not avoid remarking it to the Vakeels who assigned as a Reason (which was known not to be a true one) that Provisions were more conveniently procured by that Route than by any other

5. We have the Pleasure to acquaint you that the Bombay Army under the Command of Brigadier-General Macleod with the Ships of War

under Captain Mitchell, having appeared off Mangalore
 Consn 3d February on the 25th of November, in Order to relieve the
 Necessities of that Garrison, which was reduced to the last extremity from
 want of Provisions, effected their Purpose without a Renewal of Hostilities,
 which the General had strict Orders not to commence if it could possibly
 be accomplished without them. The Troops however were ready to land
 when Tippoo consented to receiving a Month's supply, and made a Solemn
 Promise thro' Mons Piveron, the French Envoy, that the same Quantity
 should be received on the same day of the Month following. He agreed
 also to allow the Garrison of Onore to be victualled in the same
 Manner.

6 General Macleod proceeded from Mangalore to Tellicherry, and, as
 we understand by a private Letter from Tanjore Dated the 5th of last
 Month, and transmitted to us from Fort St George, was employed soon
 after his return in Hostilities against the Rannee of Cannanore¹. She is re-
 presented in the Intelligence to be an Ally of Tippoo, and as having done
 every thing in her Power to distress us during the War. The particular
 Cause of the late Hostilities against her, is said to be, Treatment of
 some of your Sepoys who were wretched in her Dominions just before the
 General's last Expedition to Mangalore, She is reported to have immedi-
 ately made them Prisoners, and to have treated the General's Application for
 their release in the most contemptuous and insolent Manner. We are told
 also that General Macleod when at Mangalore complained of this to Tippoo,
 who disavowed countenancing any such Conduct and that the General
 determined in consequence to make her answer for it.

7 The Fort was stormed and taken on the Morning of the 14th
 Decr with little loss, but, the Enemy defending themselves with the
 greatest Obstinacy in some Coco Nut Topes which were strongly barrica-
 ded, the Action continued very violent 'till Noon, when, our Troops having
 gained the Position necessary for attacking the rest of the Enemys Works,
 the Firing ceased, and the Rannee surrendered herself, her People and her
 Country on the next Day. We are said to have lost 8 Officers and 100
 Europeans Killed and Wounded in this Attack, and Sepoys in proportion.
 The Enemy's Loss is also mentioned to have been very great. We do not
 wish to give any opinion on the Propriety of General Macleod's Conduct in
 respect to the Rannee of Cannanore, as we have not sufficient Materials
 before us to enable us to judge of it, but we are concerned that the slightest
 occasion should have been furnished to Tippoo Saheb to charge us with a
 Breach of the Convention between him and the Company. We are happy
 however to observe that no Change appears to have taken Place in Con-
 sequence of this Transaction in Tippoo's Disposition to Peace as in the
 same Letter to your President at Fort St George in which he mentions the
 Attack on Cannanore, as well as that made by Colonel Fullarton at
 Palacacherry, and Combatores, he acquaints the President that, agreeably
 to his desire, he had sent a Passport for Mr Huddleston, who had been
 appointed one of the Commissioners for concluding a Peace with him.

8 We are yet apprehensive that the Right Hon ble the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George had reason to be doubtful of the successful Issue of their Negotiations, as they have informed us that they were endeavouring to get their Army into the Field as fast as possible so as to be prepared for any Event

9 Meer Mohud Deen Cawn the Commander of Tippoo's Troops, yet remained with his Forces on the Carnatic Side of the Gants chiefly between Collispace and Arnee observing the Cessation of Hostilities but collecting the Revenues of the Districts possessed by him at the Time when it took Place It had been agreed that on the Arrival of the Commissioners with Mohud Deen the Forts taken by Tippoo's Troops should be delivered up, and his Army evacuated [] the Carnatic But Tippoo endeavours to justify himself for their continuance within its Boundaries by observing that the Agreement was reciprocal the Places taken from him during the Course of the War being to be delivered up in the same Manner as those which he had taken from us, and that the Commissioners refused to give up Mangalore after which Hostilities were commenced at Palacachery

10 We have the Honor to transmit to you Numbers in this Dispatch a Copy of Tippoo's Letter to your Right Hon ble President at Fort St. George as well as a Copy of that to which it is an Answer and of the Intelligence from Tanjore.

11 We are advised by Lieutenant Anderson of Conferences which he has had with Madajee Sindia and Bow Bucksey on the 13th & 20th of last Month in Regard to Tippoo's Conduct and a proposed Cooperation Cons. 3d. February between the Company's Forces and those of the Maratta State against him if he should not comply with the Requisition contained in the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey A Copy of Our Advices from Lieut. Anderson accompanies this Dispatch.

12 Wishing as we anxiously do for a General Peace throughout India which would be effected if the Negotiations with Tippoo were brought to a happy Conclusion we have yet thought it necessary in Consequence of the State of serious Doubts in which those Negotiations appear to be at present and Tippoo's removal of his Vakeel from Poona which indicates no Intention on his Part to accede to the 9th Article of the Maratta Treaty, to give some general Instructions to your Select Committee of Bombay such Instructions being to have effect only if Hostilities should be renewed

13 The Season for Action is now so far advanced that we cannot form and detach any Body of Troops from this Part of India to Act with the Marattas during the present Year but we think that a sufficient Detachment might be spared from your Presidency of Bombay for that Purpose or that the Forces under General Macleod might be employed with Effect for the General Good If the War should be continued we have requested the President and Select Committee of Bombay to settle a Plan for the Conduct of it with the Ministers at Poona. That Plan will

determine whether the Peshwa's and Company's Forces shall Act separately or conjunctively, and this Point we have left entirely to their Judgement Our earnest Wish is that the War when once renewed be prosecuted with Vigor to a speedy and Honorable Conclusion, our Aids of Money shall not be wanting, as far as we can supply them, to give Effect to the Operations, and for this Purpose we shall remit a considerable Sum to Bombay by Shroffs Bills so soon as we learn that the Negociation with Tippoo is broken off

14 If Sindia should leave his present situation as we think Probable, to act against Tippoo, he will be able in a great Measure to Command the Conduct of the War on the Part of the Marattas, and if the Company should be Parties in it, we have requested that the President and Select Committee at Bombay will pay a due attention to his Wishes whether Conveyed to them immediately by himself or thro' Lieut Anderson whom we have directed to attend him if Sindia should desire it

15 Had the Right Hon'ble President and Select Committee at Fort St George thought proper to make the Treaty of Salbey a Principal Ground of their Negociations with Tippoo Saheb the Disturbances which may follow would in all probability not have happened, and we should not have had to encounter the Embarassments which we suffer, and are likely to suffer from the Differences between that Chief and the Marattas

16 We have the Honor to acquaint you that your Detachment under the Command of Col Charles Morgan was advanced on the 23d Ulto as far as Noonkesera, which is at the Distance of about 12 Coss from Gualiar

17 The present Crisis of our Affairs rendering it essentially necessary that there should be some representative of this Government at the Court of the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn for the Purpose of guarding against and counteracting any Intrigues to the Prejudice of your Interests and keeping

Cons 20 Jany his Mind steady to the favorable disposition which he has hitherto professed towards the Company, but which is liable to be shaken by the apparent Neglect which may be construed from a longer suspension of this Measure, which his Highness has expected for several Months, and Judging Mr Richard Johnson to be duly qualified for so important a Trust, we have appointed him to it

18 We have given it in charge to Mr Johnson to repeat our most Solemn Promise² to the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn of Payment of the Arriars of Peshcush due to him, but desired him to avail himself of an opportunity perfectly proper and convenient for proposing to his

Cons 3d, February Highness an Accommodation of that Claim in such manner as may be agreeable to the Interests of both Governments by settling against it the Revenue due to the Company for the [Guntoor] Circar from the Period of Bissaulut Jung's Death to the present time, and a proper Consideration for the Cession of that Circar to his Highness's exclusive Possession But Mr Johnson is directed not to conclude any Engagement nor even to Propose the Close of it, until he shall

have received the Orders and Sanction of this Government for that Purpose

19 We have the Honor to enclose a Copy of our Instructions to Mr Johnson,² and beg leave to refer you to them for the Particulars of his Commission. We have only to add to them as further reasons for our wishing him to make the Compromise desired that the Amount of the Arrears of Peshcush really due is more than we think that we shall be able to discharge for a great length of Time without the greatest inconvenience and that we are led to think that the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn having the actual Possession of the Guntoor Circar could not be brought to relinquish it without Compulsion & that Compulsion probably attended by a Series of Hostilities which might not only involve you in a War with other Indian Powers but create an Expence to the Company bearing an immoderate Proportion to the Revenue of that Circar for many Years to come The Expedient which we have proposed will save a Disbursement of above thirty Lacks of Rupces, and leave a very considerable Sum due from his Highness which if it be not received from him immediately, will go to the Account of the future Payment of the Peshcush for five Years and relieve your Presidency of Fort St. George for that Period from a Charge which their Finances in the best Condition of them are but ill able to afford.

20 Mr John Rontledge is appointed Assistant to Mr Johnson and Mr Charles Laird Surgeon and we have given directions for the usual Guard of two Companies of Sepoys to attend him on his Deputation.

21 Your Hon ble Court has already been made acquainted with the Resolution which we thought it necessary to Pass on the 31st of last December for withdrawing the Residency from Lucnow and accepting the Offer made by his Excellency the Vizier and his Minister of the security of Bankers of known Credit and Responsibility for the Payment of the Balance due from His Excellency to the Company and other Current Expences the Governor General being specially responsible for the Propriety of the Measure. Mr Wombwell our Accountant at Lucnow having been directed to receive such Security from the Vizier has lately transmitted to us a Copy of the Engagement entered into by the two Bankers named Lala Butchraug and Faquir Chund in which they make themselves answerable for the Sum of Lucnow Sa Rs. 1,03,81 420 being the Balance due from his Excellency to the Company at the End of the last Fussulle Year as well as for the Subsidy and other Current demands of the present Year according to a Statement adjusted by Mr Bristow Part is to be paid in the Course of the present Year 1101 and the remainder in the course of the next Year 1102 Fussulle. A Copy of the Engagement attends you a Number in the Packet

22 The Governor General having laid before us Copies of a Correspondence which has passed between Mr Wombwell and Mr Bristow, by which it appears that Mr Bristow has hesitated to obey the Order which directed his return to the Presidency in consequence of some Doubts

expressed to be primarily founded on the Terms of that Order, which he expresses to be "loose and indefinite" we have sent our peremptory Commands to Mr Bristow to leave Lucnow and repair to the Presidency immediately directing in like manner the Assistants of his Office to do the same.

23 We have the Honor to transmit to you a Number in this Dispatch, Copy of a Minute delivered by the Governor General on the 20th of last Month, in which the Governor informs us of a Letter he had received from his Secretary Major Palmer at Lucnow containing a very alarming representation of the disordered State of the Vizier's Dominions, and urging the Necessity of his repairing to Lucnow for the Purpose of giving his Personal and early Assistance to the Nabob Vizier for their retrieval, and that from other Letters received from Lucnow upon the same Subject the Governor General understands that this was the expressed Wish of the Nabob Vizier, his Ministers and all the Principal Persons of his Family and Court, having also great reason to believe that, as soon as the Nabob should have received the Notification lately transmitted to him of the last Resolutions of the Board, he would declare the same Wish in Terms, and connect it with his Acceptance of the Engagement prescribed to him. The Governor General has therefore made us an early Tender of his Services to proceed to Lucnow whenever he shall receive an Invitation from the Nabob Vizier to that Effect, for the Purpose of regulating the Company's Interests in that Province, and affording the Nabob Vizier the like Assistance for the Regulation of his

24. For the other important Reasons which have induced the Governor General to make this offer we beg leave to refer you to his Minute, which we deem well deserving your attention. The Minutes of the other Members of the Board now at the Presidency on this Subject, are also enclosed Numbers in this Address, and by these you will observe that the Governor General's Tender of his services to repair to Lucnow has been accepted on the following Conditions, Vizt that the Nabob Vizier shall in his Letters to this Government press the Assistance of the Governor General's Abilities in forming New Arrangements for the internal Management of his Country, and the Aid of his Personal and Official Influence to carry them into Execution, and state it as a Measure absolutely necessary to be adopted for the regulation of his Finances and the speedy Liquidation of his Debt to the Company, connecting it also with the Acceptance of the Engagement prescribed to him, and that the Governor General shall be of opinion that his services can be more effectual and generally beneficial to the Interests of the Company by their being employed in that Country than in the Arduous and important Duties annexed to his Station at the Presidency

25 Our Proceedings noted in the Margin will acquaint you with

Cons 20th Jany.
3d Febr'y.

Intelligence received from Mr Bristow that the Sicks had designs of renewing their Depredations in Rohilcund at the usual Season of the Year, and with advices

afterwards communicated by the Commanding Officer of your Troops at Bareilly under Date the 8th of last Month of a large Body of Sicks said to amount to 20 000 Cavalry being arrived at Burrin a Place on the Banks of the Jumna and of a report of their Intention to attempt an Entrance into Rohilcund by the Gant between Daranagur and the Hardawar

26 We are under no apprehension for the safety of the Vicer's Dominions from these Freebooters as we are sure that the Detachments at Bareilly & Futtighur will be fully sufficient to repel them even if they should succeed in entering at any part of them.

27 We have the Honor to acquaint you that orders having been given for the usual relief of the Brigades, the 2d & 3d passed each other at Allahabad on the 2d Ultimo the 3d Brigade is arrived at Cawnpore and the 2d at Monghear

Fort William

7th Feby 1784

[Per Lord Macartney]

We have the Honor to be &c &c.

19

LETTER DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1784

Differences between Fort William and Fort St. George authorities—alleged design of the second son of the Nairab of Carnatic against the Company in Madras—Governor General to proceed to Lucknow for regulating Company's interests in Oudh.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1 We have the honor of transmitting You by your Ship Fox Copies of the Letter which We addressed to You by the Lord Macartney under Date the 7th Instant

2. Since that Period We have received from your Right Honble. President and Select Committee at Fort St. George two Letters bearing Date the 30th of December and 24th of last Month. These with their several Enclosures attend You Numbers in the Packet

3. You will be led to conclude from the Letters which We had the Honor of writing to You on the 7th Instant that our Expectations of a Peace with the Nabob Tippoo Sahib were much abated and indeed that there was some Reason to apprehend a Renewal of Hostilities with him The Letter from the Madras Presidency of the 24th Ultio acquaints Us with their strongest Apprehensions on this Subject but We are well pleased

to have it in our Power to inform You on a private Communication just received from the Commander of the Country Ship Hastings, which is lately arrived in this River, after a Passage of thirteen Days only, from Fort St George, that Accounts had at length been received there from the Commissioners, and that these were of a favorable Nature, being couched in Terms which left no Doubt of Tippoo being inclined to effect a speedy Peace. We are informed by the same Authority, that Official Advice had been sent to Us of this Intelligence by a Land Conveyance, This however We cannot expect will arrive sooner than in two Days from the present Time We may possibly have it in our Power to transmit to You a Copy thereof by the Ship now under Dispatch, and if We should, it shall be forwarded without the least Delay.

4 We cannot omit requesting the Attention of your Honble Court to the Letter from your Right Honble President and Select Committee of Fort St. George of the 30th of December in Reply to ours of the 14th of the preceding Month In that Letter they are pleased to express their Pleasure in observing that We have *at last* determined to avoid any further Controversy, and to refer Home the Points in Discussion between Us to the proper Tribunals The Expression which We have marked by underlining it is not perfectly respectful, nor if it were, would it justly convey the Reproach which it implies, since they, not We, have been the Aggressors in the Differences that have unfortunately subsisted between the two Presidencies, and instead of concluding, your Select Committee of Fort St George have constantly shewn a Disposition to continue them, but the subsequent Part of their Letter is the Part which particularly surprized Us for in the Shape of a Defence of their own Conduct, and after expressing their Satisfaction at the approaching Calm, they do all that they can do, to disturb it, by recapitulating (and this in Terms the most haughty and triumphant) all the Subjects of Dispute between Us, and taking Credit to themselves for Acts which We have constantly reprobated, as if the Objections which We made to such Acts had been so slight and superficial as not to deserve even common Attention

5 Our Differences and the Occasions of them are before You To your candid Judgment We refer them, and neither the Reproaches of your Servants at Madras, nor their Attempts to provoke Us, shall alter the Disposition which We ever shall possess to administer with Steadiness and good Temper to the Wellbeing of your Affairs, by purposely avoiding any further Controversies with them as far as may be in our Power

6 The Gentlemen of Fort St George have transmitted to Us with their Letter of the 30th of Decr a Statement of the Troops entertained by the Nabob of the Carnatic on the 26th Decr 1782, and 3rd Novr 1783, and of the Monthly Pay of such Troops observing to Us that His Highness or rather his second Son and Minister the Ameer ul Omrah has notwithstanding the pretended Poverty of the Durbar, more than doubled his Guards and other Troops in the Neighbourhood of Madras, within less

than twelve Months and they also remark that the Suspicions of the President often communicated but particularly in the Beginning of January 1783 with Regard to the evil Intention of the Nabob's second Son the Ameer ul Omrah,¹ were but too well founded.

7 The same Letter which contains this Information closes with the following Paragraph "These Circumstances are well worthy your Attention they engage a considerable Share of ours, and as We are persuaded that You cannot but think it to be our Duty to take such Steps as may appear to be requisite for the Safety and Welfare of the Company by employing all proper Measures to discourage the further levying Troops in this Neighbourhood, which are to be (independently of the Company's Authority) under the Command of Ameer ul Omrah the Nabob's second Son whose Disaffection and Malignity to our Government are so well known, so We flatter ourselves that We shall receive from your Government the most effectual Countenance and Support.

8 There is surely some Allusion in these Expressions to Measures of which We are not aware. We shall call upon the Right Honble. the President and Select Committee to acquaint Us with them if any are intended and in our Resolutions on the Subject We shall be equally attentive to any sufficient Grounds which may appear for their Conduct towards His Highness the Nabob, or his second Son, and to your Honor and your real Interest.

9 We are so far from adopting the Suspicions of your President and Select Committee, or from thinking them in the slightest Degree justified by the Cause to which they are attributed that We cannot help doubting the Reality of their Existence Whether real or pretended the Treatment which the Nabob has received and the express Declarations indeed of your Select Committee lead Us to apprehend that they may be made the Ground of aggravating those Injuries to which the Nobob has been so long exposed. Our Apprehensions on this Subject arise not from the Nobob's Augmentation of his Guard but from the Measures which your President and Select Committee may be tempted to adopt in consequence of it These seem to have been already the Subject of their Deliberations, but though they promise themselves our Countenance and Support in the Prosecution of them they do not condescend to tell Us what they are. Such an Omission seems to Us at least unbecoming nor will you perhaps think them serious in their Anticipation of our Countenance and Support when You reflect how invariably they have accused Us of an unfriendly Disposition towards them

10 We had the Honor to inform You in our last Advices of a Tender made on the 20th of last Month by the Honble. the Governor General of his Services to proceed to Lucknow whenever he should receive an expected Invitation from the Nabob Vizier to that Effect, for the Purpose of regulating the Company's Interests in the Province of Oude and affording the Nabob Vizier the like Assistance for the Regulation of his Our Resolution was also communicated to You on the Governor General's Offer A strong

Letter from His Excellency and his Minister Hyder Beg Cawn has been lately received, and submitted to Us by the Governor General who has renewed the Offer before made to Us The Governor's Minutes on this Subject, and the Papers accompanying them are transmitted to You Numbers in the Packet, together with the Minutes of the other Members of the Board now here to which We beg Leave particularly to refer You, and by which it will appear that We have vested in the Governor General the Powers and Authorities which he has desired to enable him to effect the Purposes of his Visit to His Excellency the Vizier's Dominions

Fort William,
16th February 1784
[Per Fox]

We have the Honor to be,
Hon'ble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/Edwd Wheler/John Stables.

20

LETTER DATED 28 FEBRUARY 1784

Commissioners appointed by the Select Committee of Fort St George to negotiate peace with Tipu—Bombay Government asked not to appoint Separate Commissioners.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. Your Ship Warren Hastings being under Orders to depart for Europe, We do ourselves the Honor of transmitting to You by this Conveyance Copies of our last Advices by your Ship Fox, under Date the 16th Instant our Proceedings since that Period, and the Annual Sett of our Consultations for the last Year, with Index to both.

2 We received a Letter yesterday from your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George, Dated the 10th Instant, in which they inform Us that they had had Advices from their Commissioners Dated the 30th Ultio from Kielbautgoody, and were in Hopes that the next would inform them of the Commissioners being actually arrived in Tippoo's Camp Your Select Committee observes to Us, that although the Communication between them and the Commissioners is now open, yet a Variety of Circumstances induces them to entertain strong Doubts of Tippoo's Sincerity, and that they are therefore using every Precaution, and employing every Means that they can devise, to enable them to sustain a Renewal of the War in Case their Negotiations should prove abortive.

3 We regret the Necessity which We are under of sending You such fluctuating Accounts from Time to Time of the Prospects which have occasionally opened of the Issue of these Negotiations. Your Ships have been lately dispatched with so much Quickness in Succession to one another that as We have deemed it our Duty to transmit you by each such Intelligence as occurred in Relation to the Company's Affairs at the Periods of the several Dispatches, our Narrative has of Course been much broken by and subject to the various Events and Circumstances which must always be expected to attend the Progress of Negotiations of this Nature even in Europe and much more in India where the Rule of Action in the Country Powers is much governed by the Fears or Hopes of the Hour as artful Stories or new Councils may direct them or by a Desire to be availed of the Chances and Opportunities which Delays may produce for their obtaining better Terms and greater Consequence especially when the Party with whom they are in Treaty has shown as in the present Instance, an Anxiety to bring such Treaty to Conclusion.

4 Our Advices from Bombay acquaint Us that Mr Hornby has embarked for Europe in your Ship Raymond and been
 Comm. 24th Feby succeeded in the Government of that Presidency by Mr Boddam

5 We do ourselves the Honor of transmitting to You a Copy of a
 Comm. 24th Feby Letter which We have received from the President and Select Committee under Date the 20th Decr in which they acquaint Us that they had not received any Information or Instructions from this Government regarding the Mode in which the Negotiation with Tippoo is to be conducted or what Powers We have issued or may intend to issue for carrying it on and that as the Interests of their Presidency to be provided for in the Treaty are of a very important Nature and can with most Advantage be explained and asserted by Agents specially deputed and instructed by them, being also of Opinion that the Appointment of Commissioners on the Part of their Presidency will conduce materially towards obtaining the Admission of Supplies into Mangalore and Oore without the Expence and hazardous Consequences of again bringing the Ships and Troops before the Place, and may in other Respects have a good Effect on the Nabob's Conduct by convincing him of their Disposition for Peace they had appointed Mr Alexander Callandar, a Member of Council, and Mr Edward Ravenscroft late Secretary to the Committee, their Commissioners to treat and settle with the Nabob Tippoo Sahib regarding the immediate Interests of their Presidency to be provided for in the Treaty, but to make their Acts and Engagements subject to the Ratification of our Government. They inform Us further of what they intended to be the Substance of their Instructions to their Deputies, and this appears in their Letter to which We beg Leave to refer You.

6 We did not omit to acquaint your President and Select Committee with our Instructions to Fort St. George in Respect to the Terms on which the Peace should be concluded with Tippoo Sahib. We sent them a Copy

of those Instructions on the 24th of Novr by Express, and afterwards another Copy by a swift sailing Vessel that was leaving this Port, so that We trust that before their Commissioners could embark, the Select Committee would receive our Orders

7 On full and mature Consideration of the Measure resolved on by your Select Committee at Bombay, and the present State of the Negotiation with the Nabob Tippoo Sultan conducted by your Select Committee at Fort St George, and on a Reference to our Instructions to the latter in which We left the Claims of the Malabar Princes with whom We are in Alliance to their Care, empowering them also to conclude a Treaty with Tippoo Saheb conformably to those Instructions, We could not either properly or consistently give our Public Sanction and Approbation, as your Select Committee of Bombay have desired, to a separate Appointment of Deputies on their Part to enter into a Negotiation with that Chief

8 Our Objections to the Appointment of Deputies sent directly to Tippoo to act for the Interests of Bombay, when others known to have our Sanction for their Acts done agreeably to our Instructions had proceeded from Fort St George, are fully set forth in our Letter to your Select Committee of which We enclose a Copy, and to which We beg Leave to refer You for them.

9 We have an high opinion of the Abilities and Characters of the Gentlemen who have been appointed Deputies to Tippoo Saheb from Bombay, but We think that the Interests of that Presidency might have been sufficiently provided for by written Communications to the Commissioners appointed from Fort St George, and that if any Deputies were to be sent by your Select Committee they should not have been sent directly to Tippoo but limited in their Orders to conferring with the Deputies from Madras on the Objects which they might deem it proper to explain and effect

10 We have therefore directed that if our Orders shall arrive in sufficient Time, that is, in such Time that their Commands to their Deputies dispatched instantly on their Receipt of our Orders, if they have proceeded, are likely to reach them before their Arrival with Tippoo Saheb, or before he knows of their Appointment, your Select Committee do restrict the Purposes of it, to the Aid of the Commissioners deputed from Madras, in explaining, adjusting, and obtaining such Matters, and Objects, as may either respect the Release of the Prisoners of the Bombay Army, the Provision of Mangalore, the Interests of the Chiefs on the Coast of Malabar, who are connected with, or have shewn their Attachment to the Company in the Course of the War, the Restoration of your Factories in Tippoo's Dominions, and the Renewal or Increase of your former Privileges of Trade and Supply on the Western Side of India

11 If our Orders shall not arrive in sufficient Time to have the Effect which We desire, We in such Case have directed, that the Select Committee at Bombay do enjoin their Commissioners to abide implicitly by our Instructions to Fort St. George of 14th Novr, and to yield to

the Commissioners from that Presidency the leading Management of the Negociation with Tippoo Saheb And for the Sake of greater Dispatch and to meet the possibility of the Deputies from Bombay having embarked before our Letter of the 24th of Novr which was likely to produce an Alteration of their Commission arrived at that Presidency We have transmitted a Copy of our last Orders to Bombay immediately to Messrs Callandar and Ravenscroft through your Select Committee at Fort St George directing their Observance of the same, if on the Receipt of them they should be in Tippoo's Camp or in its Neighbourhood.

12. We have the Honor to acquaint You that your Detachment under the Command of Col Charles Morgan was arrived Consn. 24th Feby on the 31st Janry on the Banks of the Coharree River, which is at a short Distance only from the Jumna. Colonel Morgan is waiting there until he shall receive our Orders to cross the Jumna, being informed that the Ground on the Banks of the River Jumna and Chumbul was very ill suited for encamping on it. We sent him Instructions on the 20th Instant to proceed to the Jumna, and to cross it without the least Delay

13 We are well pleased to inform You that the Colonel Has expressed the greatest Satisfaction with the uniform good Condnot of the Officers and Men under his Command during the March from the other Side of India and with the Order and Regularity which have been preserved in passing through the different Countries. So particular were these, that not a single Village was deserted by its Inhabitants on Account of the Detachment in the March from Surat to the Coharree

14. The Commander in Chief has already communicated, through Col Morgan our Thanks to the Native Officers and Men of his Detachment for their good and meritorious Services during their Absence from these Provinces, and We have now rendered the same to himself and desired him to convey them also to the European Officers of that Corps. These are particular Occasions of our Satisfaction with the gallant Condnet of these Gentlemen which We shall be happy to reward when Opportunities occur, by further Marks of our Favor and Regard.

15 The Chief of Surat has by Orders from your President and Council at Bombay lately drawn on Us under different Dates for the Sum of Moorsheadabad Sa. Rs. 7 60,280 We have accepted such of the Bills as have been presented and shall accept the rest as well as such as may be passed on Us before the 15th of April to complete the Amount of 15 Lacs which We have given them Authority to take up for Bills on Us negotiated at the most reasonable Rates at which they could procure them

16 The Distresses of these and the neighbouring Provinces being much abated in Respect to Grain and a Prospect opening of a better Supply than was expected We have as you will be informed from our Public Department, taken the earliest Occasion of relieving the Wants of your Presidency of Fort St. George by permitting a Provision of one hundred thousand Maunds to be exported thither payable by Bills drawn

on Us. This will be a Supply which must be ultimately a Resource of Specie at Madras to ease the Necessities of your Affairs there, either by its Produce on the Spot, or by preventing the Occasion of importing Grain from the Circars, the Revenues of which may in a Proportion adequate to our Exportation of that Article from hence, be now paid in Money, instead of being paid, as We understand has lately been the Case, in Rice.

17. We have the Honor to acquaint You that the Honble the Governor General left the Presidency on the 17th Instant Consn 17th Feby. to proceed to Lucnow

18. We beg Leave to refer You to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for the Perusal of a Letter which We have received Consn 24th Feby. from the Accomptant General, accompanying an Extract of the Balance due from the Vizier to the Company to the End of January last, and followed by our Resolutions on the differences which he has stated to exist between that Estimate, and the one formed by your late Resident at Lucnow. The Accomptant General has been directed to form a complete Account of the Balance from our Resolutions on his Statement, and this will be communicated to You without Delay, as soon as We receive it

19 After taking this Matter into Consideration, We resolved that the Sum of Lucnow Sa Rs 10,50,000, which is included in the last Estimate of Claims upon His Excellency the Vizier to the End of the Fussulee Year 1191, for the Army Donation, should be charged in the Account Current of the next Month to the Nabob's Debit as before, and that such a Proportion of the Sums Monthly received on Account of the Assignments taken for the Amount of these Claims, as its Amount bears to the whole of that Estimate, should be carried Monthly to the Credit of the Claimants to the late Nabob Vizier's Donation to the Army employed in the Rohilla Campaign, and that the Accomptant General should make the Entries which will be required in your General Books in consequence of this Resolution which is formed in Obedience to your Orders of the 11th of April 1781

20 We beg Leave to acquaint You that Mr Bristow delivered over the Papers of his Office to Mr Wombwell on the 8th Instant, and that the Residency at Lucnow was withdrawn on that Day

21 The Resident at Benares having transmitted to Us sundry Claims to Deductions made by the present Naib of that Zemindarry, and founded upon similar Claims preferred by the late Naib Consn 18th Feby Baboo Durbeetzy Sing, We have reduced the Amount of some, and disallowed others in the same Manner as We did with Respect to those of Durbeetzy Sing, and agreed only to such Deductions as were granted to the latter. They appear on our Consultation noted in the Margin

Fort William,
28th February 1784.
[Per Warren Hastings]

We have the Honor to be,
Hon'ble Sirs,
Your most obedient humble Servants,
Edwd. Wheler/John Stables.

LETTER DATED 15 MARCH 1784

Difference of opinion among the Commissioners sent to conclude peace with Tipu—Mangalore in possession of Tipu—surrender of Cannanore to the English—submission of the Rana of Gohad to Mahadji Sindia.

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble. Sirs

1 Our last Address was dated the 9th Instant, *since which Time We have had the Honor to receive your Orders of the 24th of Sept^r 1783 in Respect to the Definitive Treaties with France and Spain signed at Versailles on the 3rd of that Month. These Orders shall receive our strictest and most regular Execution of them, as well as those which they refer to of the 6th of March preceding

2 We shall immediately cause His Majesty's Proclamation of the Definitive Treaty to be made Public in the proper Forms and shall also give Public Notice of the Settlement of Preliminary Articles of Peace between His Majesty and the States of Holland.

3 We have the Honor to inform you that your Ship Swallow arrived at Fort St. George on the 18th of last Month and that We received her Dispatches on the 12th Instant by a Country Vessel, the Right Honble. the President and Select Committee informing Us that in the present Circumstances of Things they could not spare the Swallow having very particular Occasion for her Services.

4 Your Ship Earl of Oxford now under Dispatch conveys to you Copies of our last Advices by the Warren Hastings, and the Broken Sett of our Proceedings with Index to them subsequent to those of the 24th of last Month She also takes Copies of our Advices from this Department lost in the Admiral Hughes Packet and prepared agreeably to your Orders of 18th of June 1782.

5. Having been acquainted by one of our Members, on the 10th of Novr last that Lady Coote the Widow of your late and most respectable Commander in Chief had expressed a Desire to have Extracts of our Proceedings from the Month of June 1780 to the Period of the General's Decease in April 1783 in Continuation of the Copies which the General had left of those made for him in his Last Time, and giving full Weight to the Reason assigned by Lady Coote for this Request Viz. that many Circumstances which occurred during Sir Eyre Coote's Operations on the Coast and Differences with the Administration at Fort St George might become Objects of Discussion in Europe where his Friends should be

possessed of Materials to defend his Conduct on the Event of an Attack on it, We directed our Secretary to cause Extracts of the Proceedings desired by Lady Coote to be made and transmitted to her. Most of these have accordingly been finished, and will be transmitted by the Packet under Dispatch, but as the whole has not been completed, and the last Ship is now going, and as Lady Coote may have Occasion for the Papers which are wanting, We are to solicit your Honble Count to do Us the Favor of giving Orders that Lady Coote be furnished with such as she may desire.

6 The Commissioners appointed by your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George to negotiate a Peace with Tippoo Sultan reached his Camp on the 4th of last Month, had their first Audience on the 5th and a Conference upon Bus[iness] the Day following, but the Advices which We have yet received do not acquaint Us that they have made any Progress in the Business of their Commission, an unfortunate

Consn 9th March Difference of Opinion has arisen between Mr Sadleir and the other Commissioners and Tippoo, who was informed of it has attributed the delay in effecting the Work of Peace to this Cause, declaring that there was no Delay on his Part, but the Difficulty occasioned by such Difference of Opinion, Your Select Committee inform Us may be obviated.

7 We are sorry to acquaint You that Mangalore is in the Possession of Tippoo Saheb¹. The Articles of Capitulation for the Delivery of that Fort to the Nabob were executed on the 30th of January, these, and Lt Col Campbell's Letter to the Right Honble the President and Select Committee Dated the 6th Ulto in which the Colonel states the Reasons which compelled him to deliver up the Place, attend you Numbers in this Packet, together with Copies of the Dispatches which We have received from Fort St George, under Date the 19th and 23rd of last Month, to which We beg Leave to refer You for all the Particulars yet in our Possession relative to the late Transactions on the Coast.

8 The gallant and persevering Conduct of Lieut Col Campbell in his Defence of Mangalore against the powerful Attacks of the Enemy will not admit Us to entertain a Doubt of the real Necessity to which he has been reduced of giving up that important Possession but We are sincerely and most seriously concerned at that Necessity since it not only deprives the Commissioners of the Power of securing so advantageous an acquisition for the Company but of the Benefit which your actual Tenure of it must have afforded to the Terms on which We hoped that the Peace would have been concluded.

9 The Right Honble the President and Select Committee acquaint Us that they should send to their Commissioners such new Instructions, without deviating from the Line which We have given them, as may be proper for their Guidance, according to the Change of Circumstances arising from Tippoo's being in actual Possession of Mangalore, and probably before this Time of Onore as the same Sickness and Desertion prevailed at the latter Place, which Occasioned the Cession of the former.

10 Meer Mohnd ul Deen Cawn continues near Arnee in the Occupation of those Parts of the Carnatic which he possessed at the Time of the Cessation of Arms endeavouring from Time to Time to make petty Encroachments by Cavils about the Boundaries, but forbearing from any Movement of a serious Aspect. Tippoo has a considerable Force assembling at the Guzziady Pass leading from the Mysore Country into Coimbatore but he himself by his last Letters was still at Mangalore Your Select Committee however learn that he was prepared to march from thence in a few Days

11 These and other Circumstances leave Us yet in much Uncertainty with Respect to the Termination of the War, or the Occasion there may be to continue it. We have yet a Hope however that the Necessity of Tippoo's Affairs will oblige him to make Peace, and We think that the Terms of it may be advantageous for General Macleod informs Us that

Vide Genl	Tippoo's Finances are exhausted, his Army discontented,
McLeod's	his Chiefs dissatisfied and his Subjects rebellious some
Letter Dated 8th	Proof of which is given in Mr Hudleston's Letter to Lord
Jany Cons. 9th	Macartney Dated the 7th Ultio which goes a Number
March	in the Packet.

12 To be prepared however for the possible Event of a Renewal of the War We have transmitted to your Right Honble. President and Select Committee at Fort St. George, a Copy of the general Instructions which We sent to your Select Committee at Bombay on the 3rd Ultio for their Guidance in such Case and as the Services of your Forces under Colonel Fullarton may then be of the greatest Use in the Prosecution of Hostilities We have recommended to your Right Honble. President and Select Committee to concert Measures for the Operations of your Troops under the two Presidencies with the Gentlemen at Bombay and transmit to them such timely Advices of their Wishes and Intentions as may enable them to adjust the Plan for the Conduct of the War with the Ministers of Poonah who if Hostilities be renewed will be Parties in them agreeably to the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey and the Agreement concluded between Madajee Sindia and Mr Anderson in Octr last.

13 The Right Honble the President and Select Committee of Fort St. George being in Want of Information which could be depended on, of the Disposition and Views of the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn who they heard was making great Preparations for War We have acquainted them in our Letter of the 4th entered in Consultation the 9th Instant with all that We know or can suppose in Regard to the Intentions of His Highness and are of Opinion that there is no Reason to suspect any Design unfriendly to the Company in His Highness's present Measures.

14 It appears by a Letter from your Select Committee at Bombay Dated the 22nd of January that they had received our Letter of the 24th Novr accompanied by a Copy of our Instructions to Fort St. George respecting the Terms on which a Peace should be concluded with Tippoo Sahib and that they had in Consequence resolved to put an End to their intended Commission to Messrs. Callander and Ravenscroft Your Select

Committee in writing to Fort St George observe further that all that remained for them to do on this trying Occasion where so pointed a Neglect has been shewn by the Superintending Power to the Commercial Interests of their Presidency was to transmit a Copy of the Instructions intended for their Deputies to the Commissioners appointed from Fort St George, accompanied by several other Papers meant to illustrate them

15 So unmerited and unbecoming a Reproach from the Select Committee of Bombay upon the Measures of this Government could not fail to attract our Attention, however well disposed We were (and We were, and so most sincerely) to strengthen and improve the good Understanding which ought to subsist between your Presidencies in India, and We have therefore remarked on it in a Letter to Bombay, which contains also the Grounds on which We gave Instructions and Powers to your Select Committee at Fort St George to conclude the Peace We have the Honor to transmit a Copy of our Letter to Bombay on this Occasion, a Number in this Dispatch, because it is not improbable that your Select Committee there may prefer a similar Complaint against Us to your Honble Court, and because it ever is, and ever will be our anxious Desire that our Measures and Proceedings should be honored with your Approval.

16 You have already been informed of the Surrender of Cannanore to your Troops under General Macleod The General some Time afterwards precipitately entered into an Agreement with the Rannee³ for the Restoration of herself and her Dominions on certain Conditions without any Reference whatsoever to your Select Committee at Bombay, and without including in them any Clause of Ratification by this Government A Copy of the Cowle appears on our Proceedings, noted in the Margin Your Select Committee have very properly, in our Opinion, disavowed and annulled that Agreement, and We have therefore declared to them our entire Approbation of their Conduct in so doing

17 It will rest with your Commissioners at Fort St George to make such Stipulations with Tippoo as they may be able to make, with Respect to the future Disposal of the Person, Fort, and Country of the Rannee of Cannanore.

18 We have the honor to enclose a Copy of our Letter to your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George Dated the 12th Instant, in Respect to our Means of supplying them with Grain at this Time, and containing our Reasons for not taking off the Embargo on the Exportation of this Article We transmit also a Copy of the Statement which We sent with it of our Supplies to that Presidency for the last three Months Vizt. from the 30th of Novr. 1783 to the 1st Instant, shewing, that the late Bills from thence on this Government, have actually produced a Supply to their Resources of no less a Sum than C Rs 29,08,770 2 10. Your Honble Court will judge from this Statement of three Months Supply how far We are to be charged with the Neglect imputed to or implied against Us in administering to the Relief of your Affairs on the Coast.

19 We beg Leave to refer You to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for a Statement of the Sums which the Accomptant at Lucnow should carry to the Debit and Credit of His Excellency the Vizier in his Account Current with the Honble. Company for the Month of February 1784 exclusive of those which were usually Monthly included in the Accounts Current transmitted by the late Resident at the Vizier's Court, and for a Copy of the Accomptant General's Letter on this Subject

20 We have transmitted a Copy of those Papers and of our Resolutions on them as well as on those entered on our Proceedings of the 24th Ulto to the Honble. the Governor General.

21 We have Satisfaction to acquaint your Honble. Court with our having been advised by the Governor General that Almass Ally Cawn whose Conduct had given Suspensions of his good Intentions towards His Excellency the Vizier had in Consequence of the Receipt of a Letter from the Governor General repaired immediately to Lucnow where he quietly demeans himself to the Vizier's Government.

Fort William,
15th March 1784.
[Per Earl of Oxford]

We have the Honor to be
Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
Edwd. Wheler/John Stables.

P S Since the foregoing Letter was written the Governor General has transmitted to Us two Letters from Lieutenant Anderson Dated the 20th and 25th of the last Month, the latter advising that the Rana of Gohud^s had on that Day submitted to Madajee Sindia Copies of Lieut. Anderson's Letters are transmitted to You Numbers in this Dispatch.

E.W./J.S

22

LETTER DATED 15 MARCH 1784

Determination to counteract French plans in India—inadequacy of European forces in Bengal.

TO the Hon'ble the Secret Committee of the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

We were honored on the 12th Instant with your Letter Per Swallow dated the 9th of September last and containing a Postscript dated the 10th of the Month.

We shall take into our earliest Consideration the important Advice

which they communicate to us, referring them also to the Honble the Governor General for his Assistance, an Opinion on the Subject of them, and shall not fail in Attention to your Commands by keeping the Intelligence strictly secret, and taking such Measures as Prudence shall suggest for rendering abortive any Plans which may be formed by the French, inimical to the British Interests in India, and counteracting their Views and Intentions

We have the Honor to transmit to you enclosed an abstract Return of the Forces on this Establishment, Europeans and Natives, at the End of last Year, and beg Leave to solicit your serious Attention to the Inadequacy of our Forces in Europeans We have before most earnestly solicited the particular Consideration of the Honble Court of Directors of our Situation in this Respect, and the Advices before us now render it of the last Importance, that our Establishment of Europeans should be full and complete, to answer the Requisitions of the Public Service

Fort William,
15th March 1784.
[Per *Juno* frigate]

We have the Honor to be, Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful Humble Servants,
Edward Wheler/John Stables.

23

LETTER DATED 16 MARCH 1784

[Foreign Department]

Anglo-French relations—French deserters' case—certain Dutch claims—Danish objections to payment of customs duties

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon'ble Sirs,

1 We had the Honor to address you on the 15th of October last by the *Narbudda* Packet.

2 You were advised by our Secret Letter of 31st Decr. that in the late Separation of the Public from the Secret Department, when we appointed different Persons to the management of them, all our Proceedings relative to Foreign Nations were given in charge to our Secretary in the Political Department These are recorded separately and by themselves, as well for the sake of greater clearness and precision with respect to them, as for the sake of more easy Reference when your Hon'ble Court may at any time have occasion to peruse our Consultations on matters that may require to be explained by or to any of the Foreign Courts.

3. We have the Honor to transmit to you by the Earl of Oxford the annual Sett of our Consultations in the Separate and Foreign

Departments for the last year, and the broken sett of those in the latter since we transmitted it by the Ship *Halsewell* with Index to both

4 We shall take the liberty of following the same Rule in our General Letter from this Department when we advise you of any thing that passes in it which may be proper for your Information as we observe in the Consultations themselves where our Proceedings relative to either of the Foreign Nations are recorded under separate Heads.

5 We have the honor to communicate to you first what has passed in respect to the *French*

6 On the 10th of December several Letters were laid before us from Captain Roche¹ commanding the *Juliet* French Sloop of War containing Requisitions in the name of the King his Master for delivering up a number of French Seamen who belonged to the merchantmen then in the River had deserted from them and were on Board the different English Indiamen and for restoring several men said to be on Board your Ship *Nassau*, and *Warren Hastings*, who belonged to his most Christian Majesty's Cutter called the *Lizard* Mr Roche a second Requisition was for leave to export 8 000 Bags of Rice, notwithstanding the Embargo which we had laid on the Exportation of all kinds of Grain from this Country even to your other Settlements.

7 Mr Roche having thought proper to protest or threaten to protest against us for not giving up the Deserters which he claimed declaring the Company answerable for all the Damages and Losses which might happen to any of the Ships then here belonging to the Subjects of the King of France from want of men, As we were uninformed of the Rank borne by Mr Roche as a Servant to the French King or of any Commission or Credentials given to him and as at all events it was highly improper & indecent in Mr Roche and shewed a most ungrateful Return for the particular Attention which was paid to him and the other Commanders of the French Ships during their stay in Bengal to address us in Terms like those which he was pleased to use in his Letter of 26 Novr We refrained from replying to it and resolved to refer it and his conduct with all the Particulars concerning it, to the Marquis De Bussy the Representative of the French Nation in India not doubting from the Justice of His Excellency that Mr Roche's Representations would not make an Impression in his Breast or from his Reports in those of his Superiors unfavorable to this Government or lead him to imagine that our Conduct had not been most friendly to all Persons of his nation in this Country from the moment at which we were informed of the Conclusion of the Preliminaries of Peace between their Britannic and Most Christian Majesties.

8 We accordingly represented all the Circumstances to the Marquis De Bussy in a Letter which we wrote to him on the 3d. Cons. 10 Decr December to which we beg leave to refer you for them. We have not yet received any answer to it

Lieutenant Colonel Savornin an officer in the French Service who had been taken in the *Lauriston* during the first action between Admiral

Hughes and Mons Suffren and had resided here for many months afterwards died at the end of November. He had embarked on Board a Country Ship called the Hastings to go to the Coast. He returned Sick from that Ship and died at Chandernagore of a Disorder which had proved fatal to many of his Countrymen, as well as our own.

9 Mons Campagnac, a Friend of the late Chevalier de Savornin applied to us thro' our Commissary soon afterwards to nominate an Administrator to the Chevalier's Effects, and for the management of his Affairs in this Country proposing at the same time that Monsieur Desmarchais another Friend to the late Chevalier de Savornin, and a Gentleman who was perfectly acquainted with his affairs both at Mauritius, & in Bengal might be desired to take charge of them. The Chevalier de Savornin had left a Will and named Mons Bochenize as the Executor of it, but Monsr Bochenize had died also. We referred Messrs Champagnac and Demarchais to the Court of Justice at Chinsura, which by a Delegation of Powers from this Government had a Competent & regular authority to act on the occasion, but the President of that Court was at the same time informed of our opinion, that the purposes of any real will made by the Chevalier de Savornin and produced before the Court ought to be carried into Complete Effect.

10 We have the honor to transmit to you a Number in this Packet a List of the French who have been permitted to leave Bengal within the last three months, specifying the Places whereto they were to go, and in consequence of several applications from the French for permission to quit Chandernagore we have given a general
Cons 16 Decr. Licence to all the French who might wish to leave Bengal to go away at their own Expence.

11 Your Hon'ble Court may be assured that we shall pay the strictest attention to your Commands of the 24th September last, in transmitting to you by an early Conveyance, a complete and exact Statement of the Sums which have been advanced by us since the beginning of the War for the subsistence and maintainance of the French Prisoners in Bengal, together with the necessary Receipts, attested accounts, and other authentic Titles relative thereto.

Dutch

12 In our Separate Letter of the 15th October last we had the Honor to acquaint you of the Circumstances, and Events, of a Suit in Equity brought against Mr Henry Halsey for the Recovery of the Sum of two Lacs of Sicca Rupees owing to the Dutch Company at the period of the Capture of their Settlements in these Provinces, being an Advance made to him, or to one Collynaut Muckerjee whose principal Mr Halsey was for a Provision of Cloths to be sent to Europe in part of the Dutch Investment.

13 Mr Halsey being about to proceed to Europe soon after this cause was over a suit in Equity was commenced by order of the Governor

General against Mr Halsey in the name of Mr Ross the late Governor of Chinsura for the Recovery of Advances to the Amount of 180,000 Current Rupees received by Mr Halsey from Mr Ross the Governor of Chinsura in the name of this Collynant Mnckerjee and now remaining in his Hands unaccounted for being nearly the Sum for which the Suit which we have already mentioned was before commenced against Mr Halsey by the Company and in which the Company failed

14 Mr Ross had by a special Assignment under Date the 27th Decr 1782 assigned this Sum to the Hon ble Company and empowered them to sue for and recover the same in his Name in Virtue of which Assignment the last suit hath been commenced in the name of Mr Ross. The Bill was filed on the ninth day of January and on the Eighteenth day of the same Month Mr Halsey put in an answer and a Replication and Rejoinder have since been filed and several Witnesses examined The 21st Instant is the day appointed for publication to pass and the Company's Attorney is of opinion that the Suit will come on for hearing in the Sittings after the present Term.

15 We transmit enclosed a number in this Packet a List of the Dutch whom we have permitted to leave Bengal

Danes

16 We have had some Correspondence with the Governor of Fredericksnagore respecting the stoppage of a Danish Sloop called the Cronberg said to be destined to the Coast of Coromandel and to the Eastward The Vessel was stopped for Payment of the Duties and Mr Bie^r complained of this as an unprecedented and unconstitutional Proceeding We gave orders for the Vessels being released and permitted to proceed on her Voyages accepting Mr Bie's security for the Payment of such Claims on the Cargo as we might deem just & legal We at the same time forwarded Mr Bie's Complaint to the Commissioners of Customs, and required their answer to it. The Justification of the Commissioners and the preceding Letters on this Subject appear on our Proceedings noted in the

Margin We transmitted such part of the Justification of the

Cons. 20 Jan'y
& 13 Feby 1784 Commissioners as was necessary to Mr Bie who so far from being satisfied with it has thought proper to protest against the Regulation under which the Cronberg was stopped and against all other Regulations which the Commissioners may hereafter make injurious to and subversive of the national Right and Privilege of the Danes to trade in this Country on paying to the Country Government 2½ P Cent on Goods imported and 2½ P Cent on Goods exported Mr Bie complains also of an Injury done to the dignity of his Character by an assertion of the Commissioners that he had granted his Passport to the Sloop Cronberg for the Eastern Coast and the Coast of Coromandel altho the Goods on Board were for his Ship the Cristianburgh. We have called upon the Commissioners of Customs to declare the Ground on which

they made this assertion, and having just received their answer we transmit it and the Papers accompanying it numbers in. the Packet As soon as the Dispatch is over we shall take the whole question into our particular Consideration and acquaint you with the Result by the earliest Conveyance that offers, that you may be prepared to reply to any Representation which may be made from the Court of Copenhagen on the Subject in consequence of any Remonstrance from the Governor of Fredericksnagore

Fort William,
16 March 1784.

We have the Honor to be,
Hon'ble Sirs,
Your most faithful Humble Servants

24

LETTER DATED 5 JULY 1784

Foreign peace treaties proclaimed—Bombay affairs and advices—separate treaty with Tipu—Sindia's suspicion—Council's note of disfavour—Residency at Poona—troops in arrears—Delhi affairs—Nawab Vazir's accounts—Benares matters—Guntur case—financial distress in subordinate presidencies—remittances from Bengal and Lucknow

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. The Expectation of an Opportunity soon offering at Fort St George for the Conveyance of Letters to England from that Presidency by the Dispatch of one of His Majesty's Ships has induced us to address you and to lay before you an Abstract of the material Part of our Proceedings, with Copies of the Papers referred to in it, since we had last the Honor of writing to you by your Ship the Earl of Oxford, and to transmit to you a Copy of our Advices by that Packet These were dated the 15th March

18th March

2 On this Day we took into Consideration your Orders of the 24th September on the Conclusion of the Definitive Treaty of Peace between His Majesty and the Most Christian King and we gave Directions for the Publication of it, and of the Settlement of Preliminaries with the States of Holland with the usual Solemnities in the Town of Calcutta in Fort William, at the different Stations of the Army, and in the different Parts of the Country, and to the French and Dutch at Chandernagore and Chinsura. and We also communicated these Events to your Residents at Foreign Courts We wrote to the Marquis de Bussy to acquaint him that we were ready to restore all the Establishments which belonged to His Most Christian

Majesty on the Coast of Orissa and Bengal to such Person or Persons as might have been appointed on the Part of His Most Christian Majesty to receive them and in all other Respects to do as the Treaty and the Explanations of it agreed to by our respective Courts might require so that the Cessions made to France should be yielded at the same Time as the Cessions made by France to England and we assured him that no Endeavours should be wanting on our part to strengthen and improve the good understanding now subsisting between our respective Nations having the fullest Confidence that the same Intentions and Disposition subsisted on the Part of His Excellency This Letter and a Copy of it were transmitted to the Right Honble the President and Select Committee at Fort St George, and we requested that they would immediately agree with the Marquis de Bussy at what Time the Restitutions to be made and received should be made and received so that both should be done at one Period and communicate the Result to us to the Bombay Presidency and to the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces by Sea and Land and as it was not impossible that your Select Committee at Fort St George might have already communicated with the Marquis de Bussy on the Accomplishment of the Stipulation in the Treaty we authorized them to withhold our Letter to His Excellency if any Thing should have passed upon the Receipt of it which made it either improper or inconsistent with the Arrangement which they might have made with him on the Part of their Presidency but, if not, we instructed them to dispatch it with all Expedition We then wrote to the Committee of Revenue directing them to inform us fully and precisely of the actual Possessions held by France and their Boundaries in these Provinces anterior to the present War that the Limits might be ascertained of what were to be restored and we desired the Board of Trade to send us the earliest most ample and most accurate Information which it depended upon them to give and to obtain of the Trade carried on by the French East India Company since the Year 1763 that we might be enabled to give complete Effect to the 13th Article of the Treaty¹ between His Majesty and the Most Christian King

23rd March

3 Mr Macpherson being returned to the Presidency after an absence from it of near 10 Weeks for the recovery of his Health he again assisted at our Councils.

4 Your Honble. Court has been already advised of the Governor General's Procedure from the Presidency on a Commission to the Nabob Vizier on the 17th February last We this Day received a Letter from him dated Badgypoor the 7th March notifying to us Advice which he had received from Mr James Anderson as communicated in the Postscript of our General Letter of the 15th respecting the Subjection of the Ranna of Gohud and his Dominions to Madajee Sindia.

5. We received on this Day a Letter from your President and Select

Committee at Bombay dated 28th January in which they acknowledge their receipt of our Dispatches of the 21th of November which communicated to them the Instructions given by us on the 14th to your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George in respect to the Peace with the Nabob 'Tippoo Sultan, and they acquainted us that they had sent Directions to General Macleod and all your Garrisons on the Coast to obey all such Requisitions as might be made to them by the Commissioners or Government of Madras, adding that they observed with inexpressible Concern the little Attention that seemed to be paid by us to the great commercial Interests of their Presidency and other Stipulations on various Points which in their Opinion ought to form no unimportant Part of any Treaty which might be made with Tippoo Saheb or any of the Malabar Princes, and they were pleased to declare further that they most sensibly felt the pointed Neglect with which their Presidency had been treated by the superintending Power in almost all Matters wherein their best and dearest Interests had been concerned, they informed us that they had stopped their intended Commission to Messrs Callander and Ravenscroft as no longer necessary, and had transmitted a Copy of the Instructions proposed for these Gentlemen to the Commissioners of Madras, accompanied by several other Papers meant to illustrate them, and that they had also Instructed your Chief and Factors at Tellicherry to give the Commissioners of Madras all the Information which their local knowledge and peculiar Situation might enable them to offer. They advised us that they had suggested to the Secret Committee of your Honble Court their Ideas of the Military Establishment that ought to be maintained at Bombay in the Event of a General Peace in India. They transmitted to us a Copy of a Paragraph of their Letter on this Subject and earnestly requested that we would give it immediate Consideration, adding that they had communicated the Purport of it to Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes whose Ideas completely corresponded with their own. They sent us an Estimate of the Expence of a Military Establishment proposed to be kept up for the Presidency of Bombay and its Subordinates to answer the Ends proposed in their Address to the Secret Committee Per Nancy, amounting to the Annual Sum of Rs 26,42,924 2 82 $\frac{3}{4}$ [sic] exclusive of Arms, Drums, and Europe Accoutrement, and they transmitted to us another Estimate of the Expence of a Military Establishment absolutely necessary to be kept up in Time of Peace for the Defence of Bombay and its Subordinates amounting to Rs 46,02,122 1 93 $\frac{3}{4}$. We received at the same Time from your Select Committee at Bombay a Statement of their Debts on the 1st of January last said to be drawn up as accurately as Time and Circumstances would admit, without including any Arrears due to the Southern Army then under General Macleod, and this Statement made your Debt at that Presidency Rs 2,18,04,493-3-42

6 A Copy of the Dispatch from Bombay which we have alluded to is transmitted to you a Number in this Address; and with it a Letter which we have received from the Governor General on the important Subjects of it. We have the honor to submit the one with the other to your serious

Consideration together with our Reply to Bombay in which you will observe that our Opinions are for the most Part conformable to that of the Governor General and that although We have referred them to your Honble Court for an Answer to the reference made to you and to us in respect to the Military Establishment, we have strongly recommended to them in the Event of Peace being concluded with Tippoo Saheb and upon terms which pronounced it likely to be a lasting one to make every immediate Reduction possible in their Military and Civil Disbursements In such Event We restricted also their Annual Drafts on us except in Cases of real Emergency to the usual Amount of fifteen Lacks of Rupees and we transmitted to them an Account of all the Remittances made or Supplies afforded to them annually since the Commencement of the last Maratta War to the then Period independently of those which were intended for the Bengal Detachment amounting to CRs. 77 61,311 13 2

7 We received a Letter from your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George dated 1st March, in which they expressed themselves glad to learn that we had sent a Person to Hydrabad to take Charge of the Company's Interests at that Court and transmitted to us the Accounts with the Soubah and the late Nabob Bissaulat Jung Copies of these Accounts were sent to Mr Johnson for his Observance in stating our Claims on the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn

30th March

8 Our Secretary this Day laid before us the following papers which he had received from the Public Department

Extract of your General Letter dated the 10th Sept^r 1783 Paragraphs 7 & 8

Extract of your General Letter dated the 24th September 1783. Paragraphs 7 8 & 13

9 The 7th and 13th Paragraphs of your Orders of the 24th September are the only Parts of these Extracts that require our Reply to them With respect to the 7th we can only assure you of our Observance of it in general but as the Reduction of Expences does not issue from this Department of your Service we must refer you for the necessary Information on this Subject to our Advices from our other Departments, contenting ourselves further with submitting to your Attention an Abstract of the Reductions which we have made in your Military Expences since the 1st of last March

10 We beg Leave to assure you that we shall punctually attend to your Orders as to the Directions or Packets dispatched to you overland but with respect to that sent under Charge of Mr D Talamas our Secretary acquainted us that it had the usual Address and was not addressed from his Office to Mr Gregory It is not improbable that Mr Talamas may have enclosed it to that Gentleman supposing him then Chairman of your Honble Court, and supposing that a Packet addressed to an Individual

might pass with greater Safety than one addressed to a Public Body

11 At this Day's meeting we read a Letter from your President and Select Committee at Bombay dated the 17th of February, in which they acquainted us that General Macleod was arrived at that Presidency and urged several strong Reasons why the Possession of the principal Fort of Cannanore should be kept for the Company, at least until it could be seen what would be the Event for the Negotiations for Peace then on Foot, that he had declared that the Treaty exchanged on the 8th January with the Rannee of Cannanore was to subsist but for one Year, that it was made by him as only a temporary Expedient to prevent the Interference of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan in Support of the Independence of the Rannee, and that he was guided in it by his Zeal for the Interests of the Company, and his peculiar Situation which required some immediate Settlement The Gentlemen at Bombay informed us that for these and other Reasons added to their Wishes to preserve so good a Station for the Army untill Peace should be either concluded or Hostilities again renewed, they had agreed to confirm the Treaty with the Rannee of Cannanore as far as depended on them, and that on full Consideration they now freely exculpated General Macleod's Conduct from the Blame and Censure expressed in their Minute of the 12th of January, which he would not have incurred had his Motives been then as much before them as they were now and that they had given the General their Testimony of the active Zeal which he had shewn on all Occasions in the Service of their Employers, They informed us that Col Gordon had Orders to appear off and revictual Mangalore about the End of January, but that from the Nabob's equivocal Conduct they were under some apprehensions that Colonel Gordon might not have been able to effect this Service, and that they had therefore requested the Assistance of both the Admiral and General to consider what was best to be done if certain Advices should arrive that the Nabob would not admit any more Provisions being thrown into Mangalore, that after full Consideration they had unanimously agreed to request the General to hold himself in Readiness to proceed to Mangalore in the Intrepid, ordered to be ready to sail at an Hour's Warning after the Receipt of their next expected Advices from the Coast, for the sole Purpose of entering into a negotiation to surrender up the Fort on their Garrisons being allowed to be withdrawn That all their Arguments, though urged in the most forcible Manner, could not prevail upon the Admiral to aid their present Intention with the Cooperation of the Fleet, although he deemed the Appearance of the Squadron most essentially necessary and requisite to the Success of their Negotiation, and although without it meeting with the wished for Success their brave and deserving Garrisons must be inevitably lost in all that Month of February at the farthest, That the Motions and Progress of the Madrass Commissioners were entirely unknown to them, That if the Cooperation should be required of a Body of Troops from Bombay with those of the Maratta State, on Hostilities being renewed against Tippoo, it was beyond their Power to give it, but that a Junction might be effected between the Maratta Army moving towards the Coast and theirs

under General Macleod yet that this would be a Measure requiring their most serious Consideration and future Engagements with the Poonah Ministry They afterwards acquainted us that the expected Advices from Colonel Gordon had at length arrived mentioning that Tippoo had gained the important Point of compelling Col Campbell to surrender the Fort of Mangalore into his Hands and enclosing a Copy of the Articles of Capitulation. The President and Select Committee at Bombay informed us also of their urgent Want of Funds to pay the Arrears of their Troops, and the current and unavoidable Expences of their Government and requested that we would immediately consider their Situation and afford them effectual Relief

13th April

12 Our next Proceedings were on the 13th of April when we received a Letter from the Secretary to your Honble Court brought by the Eurydice a Packet to Fort St George enclosing full Copies of the Definitive Treaties with France and Spain and of the Preliminary Treaty with the States of Holland. We at the same Time received a Letter from your Right Honble. President and Select Committee at Fort St George partly respecting the Intention of your Orders of 5th Sept 1782 regarding the Assignment of the Revenues of the Carnatio in the Construction of which we and they had disagreed partly announcing their Uncertainty of being able to obtain the Consent of the Nabob of Arcot and Rajah of Tanjore to the Cessions mentioned in the 14th Article^s of the Definitive Treaty with France and desiring our Sentiments upon the Line which they ought to observe in consequence and partly vindicating themselves for not having made the Treaty of Salbey the principal Ground of their Negotiation with the Nabob Tippoo Sultan and informing us that the last Advices which they had received from their Commissioners gave them Hopes of Peace At all Events they observe that they should have the greatest Occasion for supplies from this Government. We took into Consideration the Letter received by the Governor General from the Nabob of Arcot Lord Macartney's Letter to his Highness of the 10th Sept and His Highness's Answer to it and not entertaining any Doubts of His Highness's Readiness to agree to His Majesty's Wishes by conforming to the Cession of Villenour and Bahour if he was properly requested to do so Mr Wheler in the Absence of the Governor General did at our Instance address a proper Letter to His Highness on the Subject, a Copy of which we sent to your Select Committee at Fort St George recommending a similar Application from their President to the Rajah of Tanjore

13 On this Day also were recorded Advices which were received from your Presidency of Fort St. George of the Conclusion of a Peace with the Nabob Tippoo Sultan by the Commissioners on the 11th March.

14 On our Proceedings of this Day is also recorded a Letter from Colonel Pearce acquainting us that he had Reason to expect from the

Wendell Smith



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Assurances of Lord Macartney, that he should commence his March with the Detachment under his Command on his Return towards the Bengal Province on or about the 15th of April, and requesting that a Supply of Cash should be sent to meet him at Ganjam. He also informed us that he meant to send round the European Artillery and Lascars by Sea, and that Lord Macartney had proposed to him to transport the Sepoys to Bengal in the same Manner, the Impracticability and bad Policy of which, on Account of the Prejudices which the Sepoys entertain against such a Conveyance, he represents in strong Terms. Having had the Benefit of the Commander in Chief's Opinion on this Letter we instructed Col Pearse to lodge all his Ordnance and Stores either at Madras or Masulipatam as they would greatly impede his March, and as there was no Enemy in the Way likely to oppose him, We entirely approved of his Intention to send the European Artillery and Lascars round by Sea and acquainted him that we should devise such Means to supply his Want of Money as should be most likely to answer his Expectations, relying however on his having exerted his best Endeavours to obtain a Supply at Fort St George. We also requested Mr Wheeler to write to the Raja of Cuttack to facilitate the March of the Detachment through that Province.

15 The Governor General having transmitted to us several Letters which he had lately received from Lieut James Anderson, Resident with Madajee Sindia, we have the Honor to send you Copies of them with this Address. These Letters informed us that Sindia was by no Means pleased with the Negotiation which had been entered into by your President and Select Committee at Fort St George with Tippoo Sultan, after the Assurances which he had received, that the Conduct of this Negotiation should be entrusted solely to him. He at the same Time informed Lieut Anderson that the Maratta Government was determined to enforce Tippoo's Acquiescence in the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey, and read him a Letter which he had received from Tippoo expressing his Determination to accede to that Article, and desiring that an English Gentleman properly authorized by Sindia and Nana Furnavese might be deputed to him to receive Charge of those Places which were thereby stipulated to be restored to the Honble Company.

16 On these Letters the Governor General expressed his Opinion that, in pursuing any longer the present Negotiation, we were suffering that Conjuncture to pass away which was so favorable for bringing the War to a happy Conclusion, that we were losing the Confidence of our new Allies and exposed to Circumstances disgraceful in the Eyes of the other Powers, at the same Time that we offered Tippoo an Opportunity of carrying on Intrigues to our prejudice, and recovering our late Acquisitions. He therefore recommended to us to send Instructions to your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George immediately to recall their Deputies from Mangalore, and to declare to them that we would not ratify any Agreement which they might afterwards make.

17 In Reply we acquainted the Governor General, that the Orders

which he proposed were rendered unnecessary by the Conclusion of a Treaty with Tippoo on the 11th of March not yet known to him

18 Lieut Anderson acquainted the Board that Sindia had been put in complete Possession of Gohnd on the 1st of March and by a Letter to the Governor General he intimated his Opinion (founded on a Message which he received from Sindia) that Scindia meant to adopt very vigorous Measures with regard to the Rana whom he supposes it probable that Sindia meant to confine during Life

19 The Governor General having transmitted to us a Copy of the Report delivered to him by Mr Turner of his Embassy to Thibet explaining the Steps which he had taken to obtain a License from the Regent of that Part of the Country which is subject to the Tushoo Lama for the Natives of Bengal to transport their Goods thither and establish an intercourse of trade with it We derived much pleasure from the perusal of it and as we deem it deserving of your Attention a Copy of it will make a Number in this Dispatch

20th April

20 Having at this Meeting taken into our most serious Consideration the Treaty concluded by the Commissioners from Fort St George with the Nabob Tippoo Sultan on the 11th of March we were of Opinion that it was in many Points defective and improper Those Parts of it which appear to us more particularly exceptionable were the Omission in it of the Nabob of Arcot's Name either as a Party or as one of your Allies and the Neglect of the Commissioners in not making the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salhy the Basis of their Negotiation

21 Our Sentiments at large upon this Subject will appear by the enclosed Copy of our Minute on the Occasion which we beg Leave to recommend to your most serious Attention. By it you will observe that notwithstanding our Disapproval of the Treaty we saw the Necessity which we were reduced to of acknowledging it holding at the same time the Madras Presidency responsible for its Defects and that we accordingly transmitted one Copy with our Signature affixed to it to your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George and another to the Governor General that it might also receive the Sanction of his. We at the same Time in Compliance with the Request of the President and Select Committee at Fort St George transmitted a Copy of the Treaty to your President and Select Committee at Bombay and requested that they would acknowledge it under their Hands and Seals as required by the 10th Article and as we owed it in Candor to your President and Select Committee at Fort St George to make them acquainted with our Sentiments on their Conduct we furnished them at the same time with a Copy of our Minute

-- On the Previous Day is received a Letter from the Governor General under date the 2nd of April in which he represented to us in strong Colors the distressed Situation of the Province of Benares owing

to the Misconduct and Oppression of the Naib Babboo Jaggir Deeo Sing, whose instant Removal he recommended, and the Governor General offered his Services to effect a Reformation of the District As one of our Members was disabled at this time by Sickness from assisting at our Councils, we deferred the Consideration of this Letter 'till there should be a full Meeting of the Board Another Letter from the Governor General appears on the Proceedings of this day enclosing one from the Vizier acquainting him that Mr Bristow on his Departure from Lucnow had left large Sums unadjusted in his Accounts, and on the Receipt of this we called on Mr Bristow for this and the several Accounts which the Governor General had stated to be wanting

23 We received three Letters from your President and Select Committee at Bombay under date the 23rd February and the 6th and 7th March in which they communicated to us the accounts of the Loss of Mangalore and of the Difficulty of procuring the Admission of Supplies of Provisions into Onore They also enclosed to us the Copy of a Letter from the Peshwa to their President requiring them to join the Maratta Army against Tippoo, and of their President's Reply in which he declined a Compliance with this requisition They acquainted us that they had it in Contemplation to depute a Gentleman to Poonah to press the Peshwa to exert himself against Tippoo, and that they meant to appoint Mr Callander to execute that Duty They represented at the same Time their very great Distress from Want of Rice and Money and requested us to assist them as soon as possible with Supplies of both As we had it not in our Power to send them any immediate Supply of Specie, we acquainted them that we hoped their Distresses would be relieved by the Bills which their Chief of Surat might be able to procure on us, and at the same Time we issued Orders to our Sub Treasurer to allow their Bills a reasonable Preference at the Treasury to all other Demands We referred that Part of their Letter which related to the Scarcity of Rice to the Committee of Grain, and in our Reply to their several Letters abovementioned, which is recorded on our Proceedings of this Day, we acquainted them with these Resolutions, and at the same Time, as we had it in Contemplation to appoint [a] Resident at Poonah on the Part of this Government, we requ[ested] the Gentlemen at Bombay to repeal their Resolution (if possible) for the appointment of Mr Callander

24 We received from the Accomptant General two Accounts, stating that the Amount of our Remittances to Bombay on account of that Presidency, and also on Account of the Detachment from your Forces on this Establishment serving on the West of India from the 30th April 1778 to 1st March 1784, from which it appears that the Net Amount of the former is CRs 77,61,311 13 2 and of the latter CRs 2,59,02,669 9

25 On this Day we received a Letter from the Commander in Chief enclosing one addressed to him by Colonel Pearse, which suggested the Probability of his being detained at Madras till the Receipt of Orders from us, and acquainted him that Lord Macartney still pressed the measures

of sending the Detachment to Bengal by Sea which the Commander in Chief recommended it to us positively to object to and at the same Time urged the Propriety of sending a Copy of the Instructions issued by us to Colonel Pearse on the 13th to the Right Honble the President and Select Committee at Fort St George for their Information and Guidance and as our Sentiments entirely concurred with those of General Stihbert on this Occasion we acquiesced in his Proposal We also directed our Secretary to apply to the Chief of Ganjam to know whether or not he could supply the Detachment on its arrival there with one Lack of Rupees or raise that Sum for Bills on us.

26 The Accountant General having requested an order relative to the Sum of Rs 97 912 69 due by the Vizier to the Estate of the late Mr Pison which Mr Middleton your late Resident at His Excellency's Court had in the Months of June and July 1781 recommended to be transferred to the Debt of Rajah Choyt Sing on Account of a Debt due by him to the Vizier and on which our Orders had not before been issued we referred this Subject to the Governor General to be adjusted by him with the Nabob Vizier

11th May

27 The Governor General in a Letter dated 21st April advised us that he had ordered two Bills of Exchange for Rs 2,50 000 each to be remitted to us the one payable in 31 Days and the other in 81 Days after Date He informed us that they were in Part of the Sum of thirteen Lacks which Almas Ally Cawn had agreed to pay to his Master in the present Emergency for the Purpose of aiding him and relieving the Company These Bills were drawn at the Exchange of 5½ Per Cent and the Governor General acquainted us that he meant to fix the Exchange at that Rate in future expressing at the same Time his Astonishment at the former Exchange upon Bills drawn from Lucknow which were at the Time of Messrs. Middleton and Johnson from 19 to 20 Per Cent and reduced by Mr Bristow to 16 Per Cent The Governor General also recommended that the Sum which he had remitted should be appropriated to the Discharge of the Interest due on the Company's Bonds By a report from the Accountant General we learnt that the Amount then due on this Account was Rs 1,41 7,000

28 In a Letter under Date the 21st April the Governor General acquainted us that he had permitted the Paymaster to appropriate the Sum of Rs 20 000 to the Discharge of Arrears due to the Troops at Chunar and requested an Authority for the Disposal of the Cash in the Treasury at Lucknow In a second Letter of the same Date the Governor General transmitted to us several Letters which he had received from Major Browne at Delhi strongly recommending an Alliance with His Majesty Shah Allum & together with the Plan of a Treaty to be entered into as proposed to him by Miranab Cawn but the Governor General acquainted us at the

same Time, that he had given no Encouragement to Afiasiab Cawn's Expectations The Reasons urged by Major Browne in Favor of this Alliance, are the supposed Intrigues carrying on at the Court of Delhi by Madajee Sindia unfavorable to the Interests of the Company, and the Danger of the King's throwing himself upon the Seicks for Assistance and Protection in the Event of our refusing to afford our Aid in the present distracted Situation of his Affairs On the other Hand the Governor General stated to us such agreement as appeared to him to militate against the proposed Alliance These were, the Danger of converting Sindia into an Enemy by thwarting his Views (if he had any) at the Court of Delhi—The Probability that the Account of his Intrigues at that Court was fabricated by Afiasiab Cawn to serve an Interested Purpose, the Impolicy of giving Way to hasty Suspicions and the Change in his Majesty's Situation since the Month of October last, when he deemed such an Interference on our Part expedient, his Dommons having been since that Period harassed by intestine Commotions, and his Resouces exhausted by the Calamities incident to such a Situation On the whole the Governor General was of Opinion that we should not interfere until we might be able to judge of His Majesty's Resouces on the Approach of the Rains, and he requested our Sentiments on the Subject. He at the same Time acquainted us that he entertained no Doubts of the Sincerity of Sindia's Professions of Attachment to the Company, but that he should make further Enquiry into his Views and into the State of Politics at the Court of Delhi As one of our Members still continue indisposed we agreed to postpone the Consideration of this Letter until we might be able to avail ourselves of the Benefit of his Sentiments on the Subject of it

29 In a third Letter of the same Date the Governor General transmitted to us a Plan delivered to him by Mr Turner for opening an Intercourse of Trade between Bengal and Thibet, of which we approved, and published an Advertizement inviting the Native Inhabitants of Bengal to embark in it.

30 Mr Bristow having transmitted to us his Reply to the Governor General's Letter of the 5th of April relative to the Accounts which he had left unadjusted on his Departure from Lucnow, we transmitted the same to the Governor General for his Information The Reason assigned by Mr Bristow for not having adjusted these Accounts before his Departure was the Necessity he found himself under from the Multiplicity of Business of either protracting his Stay at Lucnow, or deferring the Adjustment of such Accounts as could not be immediately closed He acquainted us at the same Time that he had transmitted the Account alluded to, to the Minister by Dawke, and had no Doubt but it would prove satisfactory

31 In our Reply to the several Letters from the Governor General recorded this Day, we acquainted him that we should be able to judge how far it might be in our Power to attend to his Recommendation in Favor of the Holders of Interest Notes when we had received from the Military Paymaster General, whom we had called on for that Purpose, an Account of Arrears

due to the Army We approved of the Relief which he had afforded to the Garrison of Chunar and with Regard to the Power which he desired of ordering the Disposition of Money for the Purpose of affording early Reliefs to the different Military Stations in the upper Country we acquainted him that the Wants at the Presidency were so great that we were sure that they would appear to him to deserve a Preference to every Consideration but those of unforeseen and local Necessity

32 On this Day's Proceedings are recorded two Letters from the Nabob of Arcot to Mr Wheler complaining in strong Terms of the Omission of his Name in the Treaty with Tippoo Sultan while those of the Rajahs of Tenjore and Travencore and Vincatagerry were included in it and desiring that it might be inserted previous to the Ratification of the Treaty by us. In Mr Wheler's Reply to his Highness's Letters he was informed that this Government entirely disapproved of the Omission complained of that we had been under the Necessity of ratifying the Treaty but should take the first favourable Opportunity of arranging such additional Stipulations as might include an Acknowledgement of His Highness's Right His Highness was also requested to communicate to the Madras Government such Representations as he might hereafter deem it necessary to make to their Board regarding their Conduct so that the subject when we should take it into Consideration might be completely before us.

33 Your President and Select Committee of Fort St George acquainted us by a Letter bearing Date the 28th April that they had appointed Commissioners to treat with the Marquis de Bussy for carrying into Execution such Parts of the Treaty with France as respected them and that they had availed themselves of the Authority which we had given them to withhold our Letter of the 18th March to the Marquis de Bussy as their Commissioners had received the necessary Instructions relative to the Cessions to be made on both Sides before it came to Hand They acquainted us also that the Marquis de Bussy evaded the immediate Restoration of Trincomalay in consequence of which they instructed their Commissioners to return immediately to the Presidency if he persisted in his Refusal to give it up They informed us in the same Letter that Colonel Pearce had marched on the 22nd that they had afforded him all the pecuniary Assistance in their Power but that he would require more on his March and that their own Distresses for Money were very great more especially as in Addition to the former Demands on them they had now to provide Funds for paying the Prisoners who were released by Tippoo Sultan and amounted to upwards of 120 Europeans and about 3000 Sepoys

34 Having been informed by the Chief of Ganjam that he could not supply Colonel Pearce's Detachment with Money at that Place nor raise any for Bells on us we directed the Secretary of our Public Department to endeavour to procure Bells on Ganjam in Colonel Pearce's Favor for one Lack of Rupees.

35 By a Letter from the Commander in Chief we were informed that Colonel Pearce had marched with eight Guns and that he had directed

the Colonel to leave them at Nellore, but recommended that the Chief of Masulipatam should be desired to receive them, if the Colonel should have passed Nellore before the Receipt of his Orders Instructions to this Purport were accordingly sent to the Chief of Masulipatam

13th May

36 Letters from Bombay under Date the 10th and 26th of March recorded on this Day's Proceedings acquainted us with the fluctuating State of the Negociation for Peace with Tippoo Sultan, to as late a Period as the 10th of March and mentioned a Report which had been transmitted to them by General Macleod and by Captain Scott Commander of your Ship Hawke, then stationed in Mangalore Road that, Tippoo had treated the Commissioners with Insult and Indignity by erecting Gibbets before their Tents, and preventing them from keeping up an unreserved Communication with the Shipping These Letters also represented the great Distress of Bombay for Money, and their utter Inability to put the Army in Motion on that Account, if the War should be renewed They also suggested the Propriety of the Corinjah Rajah's being included in any treaty which might be made with Tippoo

37 In consequence of the Intimation contained in the Letters from General Macleod and Captain Scott, and of the Recommendation of the Governor General, we thought it necessary to transmit Extracts of these Letters to your President and Select Committee at Fort St George, as the Circumstance stated in them if true would have entailed an indelible Disgrace on the English Name in India We accordingly required from your President and Select Committee their Commissioner's Reply to the Charge thus exhibited against them, and at the same Time directed them to transmit to us complete Copies of their Correspondence with the Commissioners, and of every Paper relative to the Negociation

38 A Letter which we received from General Macleod acquainted us that, he had been under the Necessity of breaking up his Army, and sending the Major Part of the King's Troops to Madras, (notwithstanding that a Letter which he had received from the Commissioners required him to keep them collected) in consequence of his utter Inability to support them, and that he had been reduced to the Necessity of granting Bills on us for their Arrears provided they were not paid at Fort St George, which he hoped the Situation to which he was reduced would excuse We acquainted General Macleod in Reply to this Letter, that we thought him justified in what he had done by the Circumstances of the Case, and at the same Time gave him our Testimony of his Gallantry and the Services which he rendered to the Company during the War

39 On this Day's Proceedings is recorded a Letter from the Governor General containing his Sentiments on the Treaty concluded with Tippoo, and written prior to the Receipt of our Minute on the same Subject As this Opinion coincides entirely with that delivered by us on the 20th April, and

as we think that such a Conformity is a strong argument in Favor of the Justice of our Conclusion we beg Leave to recommend it to your attentive Perusal

40 In a Letter bearing Date the 3rd May the Governor General transmitted to us the Copy of a Letter which he had received from Lieut Anderson which stated the displeasure of Madajee Sindia at the Omission of the 9th Article of the Maratta Treaty as the Basis of the Treaty concluded with Tippoo and laid before us the additional Difficulties in which we were involved from this critical Omission. The Governor General also enclosed a Copy of the Letter which he had written on the Occasion to Sindia to endeavour to reconcile him to it but acquainted us that he was sorry to add that the Arguments he was obliged to use were such only as displayed the Nakedness of our Political System and the Imbecility of the first Authority by which it is governed

41 By a Letter from the Governor General under Date the 2nd of May we were informed of the Flight of Mirza Jewan Bukht * eldest Son of the reigning King Shah Allum from the Dominions of his Fether and that His Majesty had written to the Nabob Vizier and to the Governor General to desire that they would not receive him but effect his Return to the Presence The Governor General in Consequence addressed a Letter to the Prince desiring that he would not make Lucnow his Residence but received an Answer from him intimating his Resolution to proceed to Lucnow notwithstanding the Governor General's Desire to the contrary In consequence of this Intimation the Governor General and his Excellency the Vizier after mature Deliberation resolved to receive the Prince The Inducements to which were the Probability that the King himself was privy to the Prince's Flight and the Fear that if he was compelled to seek an Asylum in another Quarter he might throw himself into the Hands of such Persons as would be most likely to employ him as the Instrument of the Designs which have been imputed to him. The Governor General acquainted us at the same Time that he considered this Event as distressing but should be careful to guard against every Movement and to discourage every Suggestion which might have a tendency to loosen our actual Connection or to prove the Source of Expence The Subject of this Letter being of material Importance we resolved to delay the Consideration of it till there should be a full Meeting of the Board

42 In a Letter which we wrote to the Governor General we acquainted him that we derived much Satisfaction from perceiving that his Sentiments on the Peace with Tippoo coincided with ours and that we trusted his Letter to Sindia would have the desired Effect in removing any Jealousies from Sindia's mind in consequence of the Maratta Treaty as it having been mentioned as the Basis of that with Tippoo

- 14 May

43 Mr Welch continuing still so much indisposed as to be unable

to attend our Councils, we agreed to meet this Day at his House for the purpose of taking into Consideration the several Letters which we had lately received from the Governor General and on which no Resolutions had as yet been formed Having accordingly taken into Consideration the Governor General's Letter of the 2nd April relative to the Zemindarry of Benares, it was proposed by Mr Wheeler that, the Governor General should be desired to communicate to the Board his Plan for the Reformation of that District, and authorized if he deemed it absolutely necessary to dismiss the present Naib and appoint any other Inhabitant of the Province to his Station On this Proposition it was resolved by the Majority of the Board to request the Governor General to communicate to us his Plans, and to inform him that we wished to avoid frequent Changes in the Administration of the Revenue but would adopt any Checks which he might think effectual without encroaching on the Rajah's Rights On the Governor General's Letter of the 22nd April relative to the proposed Treaty with the King it was Mr Wheeler's Opinion that we should exhort the Governor General to avoid most sedulously and cautiously committing the Company either to their Aims or Treasure in his Correspondence with the King and the other Indian Powers In these Sentiments we all concurred Mr Stables^d at the same Time moved that it should be recommended to the Governor General to recall Major Browne immediately from Delhi but as we thought this might be productive of Embarrassments which we wished to avoid, the Majority of the Board resolved to leave this point to the Governor General's Discretion

44 On the Letter of the 2nd of May relative to the Flight of the Prince Mirza Jewan Bukht from Delhi, Mr Wheeler recommended that the Governor General's Conduct in receiving him at Lucnow should be approved, and that it should be recommended to him to effect his Return to his Father with Safety and Credit to the Prince To the latter Part of this Proposition we assented, but did not think it necessary to express any marked Approbation of the Governor General's Conduct on the Occasion

45 On our Proceedings of this Day is recorded a Letter from the Governor General under Date the 5th of May in which the Governor General stated his Objections to adding his Signature to the Treaty with Tippoo Sultan unqualified with any Declaration of the Nabob of Arcot's Rights and sent us the Form of a Declaration to that Effect, which he proposed to be annexed to the Treaty and transmitted to your President and Select Committee at Fort St George to be by them communicated to Tippoo Sultan We agreed to postpone the Consideration of this Letter till the Receipt of the expected Explanations from your President and Select Committee at Fort St George of those Parts of the Treaty which we deemed liable to Objection

46 By Letters from our Resident at Hydrabad under date the 3rd and 6th May we were informed that a Report prevailed that Tippoo Sultan had invaded the Guntoor Circar The Resident on this Occasion

suggested to us the Propriety of assisting the Nazim on Account of the Interest which the Company possesses in that Circar and proposed that Colonel Pearse's Detachment should be employed on this Service. He also requested Instructions from us to correspond with the different Country Powers on such matters as related to the Nazim and the Company, but as this was unusual we did not think proper to comply with his Request and as the Report of the Invasion of the Guntoor Circar was not sufficiently authenticated, we thought it unnecessary to adopt any Measures in consequence of it.

47 On our Proceedings of this Day are recorded two Letters from your President and Select Committee at Bombay under date the 7th and 8th April in which they acquainted us that they had received Account of the Conclusion of the Treaty with Tippoo which they imagined would give much Dissatisfaction to the Peshwa. They also represented in strong Terms their Distress for Money the Chief of Surat not having been able to procure any for Bills on us and they acquainted us that they had been obliged to send positive Orders to General Macleod to send His Majesty's Troops to Madras on board the Squadron.

25th May

48 We received a Letter from Fort St George under Date the 7th May in which they acquainted us that a Mutiny had broken out in their Cavalry at Arcot which they indirectly charged to our Account by complaining that we had made them no Remittances in Specie since the Death of Sir Eyre Coote notwithstanding our Promises and the positive Orders of your Honble Court. They also acquainted us that unless we afforded them immediate Assistance they should be plunged into Difficulties perhaps insurmountable. They also stated in strong Terms the Danger to which they were exposed from the Increase of the Troops of the Ameer ul Omrah from the Difficulties thrown in the Way of the Execution of the Treaty with France by His Highness the Nabob from the Refusal of the Marquis de Bussy to give up Trincomalay to us and from the Intrigues of the French with our Indian Allies.

49 On this Occasion we called your Sub Treasurer and Military Paymaster before us and examined them with Regard to the Possibility of making a Remittance in Specie to Madras. From the Evidence of these Gentlemen it appeared that Bills drawn on us by your President and Select Committee at Fort St George were generally paid within three or four Months after they became due that the state of the Treasury would not admit of the same Remittances in Specie as before the Death of Sir Eyre Coote that the Country had been materially injured by the Supplies already sent that the Average monthly Demand for the Payment of our own Army for the Year 1758 was £ 114 10 10 that the Amount actually due to the Civil Department was £ 114 10 10 and to the Army at the end of

March C Rs 56,88,776 10 11—that the Troops within the Provinces were near five Months in Arrears, and that if we had determined to send five Lacks of Rupees to Madras, all Payments must be stopped to the different Departments of our own Government It further appeared by an Account delivered in by our Accomptant General, that the Average Monthly Amount by Specie and Bills of Supplies to Madras while Sir Eyre Coote commanded the Army was C Rs 3,99,495 5 11 and since that period Rs 3,92,234 12 11, that the Average Amount of Supplies of every kind while Sir Eyre Coote held the Command was Rs 6,32,530 9 1 and since that Time Rs 4,74,622.10 9 Under these Circumstances and being also informed by our Accomptant General, that the probable Amount of Receipts into our Treasury during the Months of June, July, August and September would be only about Rs 61,78,215 6 2 we were obliged to decline sending any immediate Supply of Bullion to Fort St George, but at the same Time transmitted Copy of their Letter, and of our Proceedings on it to the Governor General and entreated him to use his utmost Endeavours to make a large Remittance to us as speedily as possible that we might be in some Measure enabled to relieve the Wants of that Presidency A copy of our Reply to your President and Select Committee on this Occasion makes a Number in this Dispatch

50 We received about this Time a Letter from Colonel Pearse under Date the 6th May acquainting us that he had been ordered by Lord Macartney to halt with the Detachment under his Command at Nellore

51 We also received a Letter from your Resident at Hyderabad, in which he points out an Embarrassment he was likely to be exposed to by the Neglect of the Madras Government in omitting the Name of His Highness the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn in the Treaty with Tippoo, as an Ally of the Company notwithstanding our positive Orders to include him, and the Promise contained in the Governor General's Letter to His Highness under Date the 15th November He also proposed that in Order to give Weight to his Negotiations, Colonel Pearse should be instructed to attend to his Requisitions, and expressed himself confident that he could manage such a Resource without deviating from that Path which we had prescribed to him In a second Letter to us under Date the 10th of May Mr Johnson acquainted us that it was probable the Dispute between the Nazim and Tippoo, which occasioned the Invasion of the Guntoor Circar would be amicably adjusted. We postponed the Consideration of these Letters to a future Day

52 On our Proceedings of this Day a Letter is also recorded from your President and Select Committee at Bombay under Date the 16th of April, in which they again represented their Distress for Money which had obliged them to break up General Macleod's Army at all events, and acquainted us that their President had written a Letter to Tippoo congratulating him on the Peace, that they had instructed their Chief and Factors at Tellicherry on no Account to interfere between him and his Allies, and that Hyat Saheb, late Phouzdar of Bidonour would

continue to reside at Bombay till after the Rains.

8th June

53 On the 27th of last Month we received a Letter from the Governor General dated the 16th in which the Governor General again desired our Instructions for the Application of the Money which he had received into the Treasury at Lucnow and submitted to us the Expediency of giving him a discretionary Power to remit by Bills to Bombay such Sums as might be spared Immediately and occasionally from the Lucnow Treasury with a proper Attention to the daily Exigencies of the Corps of the Army stationed in the Upper Provinces and under such Limitation of the aggregate Amount as we might think proper We in Reply to the Governor General's Letter gave our full Approbation to his making an immediate Remittance to the Presidency of Bombay of any Sum not exceeding five Lacks of Sicea Rupees but as our own Wants were very urgent and we had also the most pressing Demand for Money from your Presidency of Fort St George we earnestly requested a Remittance to us in Specie of any Sum that might afterwards remain in the Treasury at Lucnow

54 The following Letters from the Governor General were before us on the 8th of June

2 dated 23rd May

1 do 24th Do

1 do 26th Do

55 The Governor General's first Letter of the 23rd of May reminded us of replying to his Letter of the 2nd April in respect to the Zemindary of Benares and stated the Necessity of a Reform in the Management of that Country The 2nd of the same Date conveyed to us the Treaty with Tippoo and a Copy of the Declaration which he proposed (Vide Diary 20th May) to be subjoined to it in respect to the Rights of the Nabob Walaw Jah and that we considered that Nabob's Name as implied in the Words Carnatic Payen Ghaut wherever in the Treaty those Words were used He transmitted to us a fair Copy of the Treaty with his signature to the Acknowledgement annexed to it as sent with our own to Fort St George on the 20th April and another Copy with the same Acknowledgement annexed and the Addition of the Declaration abovementioned, and bearing his Signature the Governor General leaving it at our Option to send the Treaty with his Signature and the Declaration following it or the Treaty without such Declaration to Fort St George as we might judge proper We immediately resolved on the former signed the Declaration subjoined to our Acknowledgement of the Treaty and affixed to it the Seal of the Company We had not received any Explanation from Fort St George of the objections^[sic] parts of the Treaty although they had advised us that they had received our Letter and Minute which required such Explanations Time would not permit of our waiting any longer We

therefore sent them a new Copy of the Treaty with the Acknowledgement and Declaration subjoined to it, and gave them peremptory Orders to dispatch it so amended immediately to Tippoo Sultan. Mr Wheler at the same Time wrote a Letter to Tippoo Sultan on the Subject, but we sent your Select Committee a Translation of it, and left it in their Judgement and Discretion to forward it with the Treaty to Tippoo or not as they might think proper. We directed them to announce the Declaration which we had subjoined to the Treaty in the most formal and respectful Manner to the Nabob Walaw Jah, proposing to him to sign the Treaty under our declared Construction of it, and that they would use their utmost Endeavours to obtain a formal Acknowledgement from Tippoo of the Understanding which we had given to it. Mr Wheler at the same Time wrote a Letter to the Nabob of the Carnatic, a Translation of which was sent to your Select Committee at Fort St George with the Original of it, and with Translations of the Letters received from His Highness in which he remonstrated against the Omission of his Name in the Treaty, and appealed to the Government for Redress. We beg Leave to recommend our Letter to Fort St George of the 8th June to your attentive Perusal.

56 The Governor General's Letter of the 25th May pointed out an Irregularity which had existed in the Rates of Batta charged by the Residents at Lucnow on the Rupees in which the Vizier makes his Payments to the Company. We directed the Mint Master to assay the several Species of Rupees which the Governor sent to us for that Purpose and to report their comparative Value in Weight and Fineness with Fyzabad Siccas of the 16th Suns, in which Rupee or its Equivalent, the Viziers Payments are fixed by Treaty.

57 The Governor General's Letter of the 26th May announced his Expectation of Major Browne's Arrival on the 28th from Delhi with Kellaut, and Letters from the King Shah Allum, and that the Governor General proposed in Compliance with the Forms of Respect prescribed and established for such Occasions to advance beyond the City to receive them. The Governor General acquainted us that he could not judge what Changes this Deputation would make in the Situation or Determination of the Prince Mirza Jewan Bukht, but that he conceived none and assigned his Reasons for this Belief. The Governor General at the same Time informed us that the Prince had lately expressed much Dissatisfaction with his actual situation and a Desire to retire to Benares and that he had rather encouraged than opposed this Inclination, because the Presence of Mirza Jewan Bukht at Lucnow was no less hurtful to the Administration of the Province than humiliating to the Prince, and many useful purposes might be attained in the Maturity of Time from his Residence under the Protection of your Government, exclusively of the immediate Benefit which the King was likely to derive from the Provision of such a Resource against the worst Designs of the Men, who have Possession of his Person and Authority. The Governor General observed that he should be very unwilling to acquiesce in this Proposal of the Prince if he should decidedly make it,

before he had received our Satisfaction for it as it would be impossible to foresee all the Consequences which might happen or be suggested to the Opinions of others as likely to ensue from the Idea of a Connection so established between the Prince and the English Nation but that the Prince could not remain at Luckow and if he should refuse as he most probably would to return to Delhi our Unkindness might throw him into some Dependence of eventual Danger to the Interests of your Government as the Necessity impelling him would be disgraceful to it

58 We replied without Delay to this Letter from the Governor General, repeated the Hope expressed in our Letter of the 20th May that he would be enabled to effect the Return of the Shahzada to his Father with Credit and Safety to the Prince and added to it our most earnest Desire that his best Efforts might be used for that Purpose and we informed the Governor General that the many Inconveniences to the Company which would attend the Residence of the Shahzada in any of your Territories appeared to us in such strong Colors that we could not give our Consent to it and wished it to be totally discouraged

59 On this Occasion one of our Members delivered in a Minute expressive of his Concern that the Board had not Information of the Prince's Flight in Time to Influence the Vizier in preventing his entering the Country of his Persuasion that our affording him any Asylum could not fail to excite Jealousies in the Breasts of Sindia and the Delhi Chiefs and his Opinion that the Governor General should be informed that we could neither grant the Prince Protection nor interfere in his or his Father's Political Views. The Orders of your Honble Court and the Resolutions of the Secret Committee of the House of Commons in April 1782 are alluded to in Support of these Sentiments.

60 On this Day (the 8th of June) a Letter was laid before us from the Deputy Secretary at Fort St. George dated the 8th May accompanied by a Copy of the Proceedings of the Committee of Assigned Revenue at that Presidency for the Year 1783 We also received a Letter from your Right Honble President and Select Committee with a Copy of their Proceedings in respect to the Cessions that were to be respectively made by England and France in the East Indies agreeably to the 13th and 14th Articles of the late Definitive Treaty We beg Leave to refer to the Letter itself for the Information which we received from Fort St. George on the Subject which conclude[s] with acquainting us that the Negotiation was suspended for the present on Monar Bux's Declaration that he had not received the necessary Orders from his Court and with a Request that on an Application being made to us on the Part of the French for the Repossession of Chandernagore or any other Factory within our Government we would refer it to them to whom Trincomalay was to be delivered and for which all the necessary Arrangements must be made before the Cessions were to take Place on the Part of the English We resolve in near Conformity to this Report and sent similar Directions to your Select Committee at Madras

61. The Letter which we have referred to from your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George acknowledged their Receipt of that from the Government of the 20th April, on the Treaty concluded by their Commissioners with Tippoo Sultan

62 Your Resident at Hyderabad informed us under Date the 8th of May of the Reason which operated upon Tippoo's Troops in committing Hostilities in the Guntoor Circar His Words are as follows

63 "It now appears that a Nephew of the Nabob Tippoo acts as Phouzdar in the Districts adjoining to Guntoor That he sent some Men with Money to recruit in the Guntoor The Men he sent were plundered of the Money and upon applying to Syfjung the Phouzdar of Guntoor no Redress was obtainable To repay himself therefore conformably to his previous Threat in Case of non restitution of the Money lost, the Nabob Tippoo's Phouzdar entered the Guntoor and plundered seven Villages, since which nothing further has taken Place on either Side "

64 "The Intelligence regarding the Contest about Bissoulut Jung's Succession remains as at first represented The only Variation from the whole of my first Statement lays in the Separation of the Cause of the Guntoor Invasion which if true at once removes every Argument built upon that Position "

65 Colonel Pearse wrote from Nellore on the 9th of May, that having received Authority from the Select Committee at Fort St George to continue his March, he should do so the next Morning, leaving his Guns according to General Stibbert's Orders, at that Place On the 10th he stated to us the Difficulties which would attend his marching his Detachment through Cuttack in the rainy Season, and proposed to us that he should explore a new Passage through the Hills, and he informed us that he had Reason to expect two Lacks of Rupees at Masulipatam On the 12th he sent us a Copy of Orders which he had received from Fort St George to halt at Masulipatam, and to take his Guns, Lascars &ca with him to that Place The Colonel attributes these Orders to the Mutiny of the Troops at Arnee, and to the Disputes between the Rajahs of Curpah and Vincatagerry On the 15th he received fresh Orders not to halt at Masulipatam, but to leave his Guns at that Place, and he proposed to us that he should canton his Detachment at Sicacole, if he were not to continue his March in the Rains The Commander in Chief supported this Proposal from Colonel Pearse, and we directed the Colonel to canton his Detachment at that Place until further Orders, or until the Season should admit of his marching it onwards to Midnapore by the common Road without Risque to the Men under his Command, for we were of opinion that the Health of Troops who had served the Company with such distinguished Bravery and Honor was an essential Consideration to which every other but Necessity should give Way We directed the Colonel at the same Time to inform us of the Wants of his Detachment in respect to supplies of Cash, and if he could obtain them of Bills on this Government we authorized him to draw such Bills at the most reasonable Rates of

Exchange of which he could procure them

66 A Letter from Bombay dated 20th April has informed us of their having received the Definitive Treaty with France and Spain

67 We received an Address from General Macleod under Date the 27th April excusing himself for having used the Expressions in his Letter of the 8th of January which were onimadverted on in ours of the 4th of March declaring his Attachment to the Company and his Gratitude for the Favor which he had received from their different Governments in India and announcing to us his Intention of proceeding to Europe

16th June

68 The Mint Master having delivered us his Report on the comparative Value of Fyzabad 16 Sun Sica Rupees with Lucnow Sica Rupees of the 23rd 24th 25th and 26th Suns We transmitted a Copy of it to the Governor General requesting that he would afford us the Means of a more perfect Assay and commending the subject to his further Consideration

69 We received on this Day (the 16th June) a Letter from your Select Committee at Bombay dated the 9th May acknowledging their Receipt of ours of 23rd March and informing us that they would attend to our Instructions to Fort St George therein communicated and such as might be hereafter communicated for the Select Committee there for carrying the 13th and 15th Articles of the Definitive Treaty into Execution They repeated their Assurances that they would pay the utmost Attention to our Commands respecting the Public Service They promised us more accurate Statements of their real Situation and of what may be the future Wants of their Presidency and informed us that they had directed the Chief of Surat not to pass any more Bills upon this Government until he should receive their further Orders They acquainted us that they had highly approved of General Macleod's Conduct in embarking the Detachment of His Majesty's and Electoral Troops at Tellicherry on board the Fleet for Madras excepting the 1st and 100th Regiments and a small Detachment of the Royal Artillery that were to be sent to Bombay by the Namaw They requested that we would honor the Bills drawn on us by General Macleod at the same Time they informed us that they had reduced their Sepoy Establishment from 16 to 9 Battalions and dismissed the two Companies of Native Artillery and the local Corps at Surat and reduced the Battalion doing Duty there by 200 Men and that on the whole they had lowered every Military Charge as far as they could do so consistently with the safety of their Presidency and its Subordinates They acquainted us that there were no Accounts at Tellicherry on the 17th April of the Release of their Prisoners with Tipu but that they hoped to have better Intelligence on that subject by the Letter that they had received of the Evacuation of Cannanore and the Retreat of the Army from that Coast must prove to the Satisfaction that they were pursuing their Intention of preserving the Peace concluded with him They informed us that they undertook from

Report that the Maratta State and Tippoo were likely to come to an immediate Rupture, as the former had begun to reduce some of the Tributaries of the latter, and were said to have taken one or two Places.

22nd June

70 Two Letters from the Nabob of Arcot were laid before us by Mr Wheeler in which His Highness complains on several Subjects against your Right Honble President at Fort St George Copies of the Letters attend you Numbers in the Packet

71 We this Day received a Letter from the Select Committee at Fort St George containing many Arguments in Reply to our Observations of the 20th April on the Treaty concluded by their Commissioners with Tippoo Sultan It is not easy, and might not perhaps be just, to abstract them, and we therefore beg Leave to refer you for the Perusal of this Performance to the enclosed Copy of it We agreed to delay our Reply to it until we should receive the promised Copy of the Proceedings of their Commissioners

72 Colonel Pearse acquainted us under Date the 6th June that his Detachment was arrived at the Codaveree On the 7th he informed us that the Circumstance of your Forces under his Command who had been long upon Service, and were nine Months in Arrears having met some Circar Battalions who were paid up to the Day had raised Discontent in the Detachment, that the Men however were very quiet and that he hoped that the Select Committee at Fort St George would direct the Chiefs at Masulipatam and Ganjam to give him Assistance

73 The Governor General transmitted to us under date 4th of June the Circumstance of a Claim which His Excellency the Vizier had on Ismael Beg, late Aumil of Illahabad who had come down with Mr Bristow to Calcutta We communicated them to Ismael Beg and required his Reply

74 Another Letter from the Governor General, bearing Date the 5th June informed us of his Receipt of our Letters of the 11th, 13th and 20th May, that the Prince Mirza Jewan Bukht had declared his Resolution to leave Lucnow, and requested that the Governor General would give Orders for his Accommodation at Benares, that the Governor General would have been glad to have waited for our Permission, but as the Prince urged the Expediency of his speedy Departure on Grounds which the Governor General himself approved, and as he could not with any Propriety refuse the Rights of Hospitality which we should ourselves have granted to a less illustrious Guest he acquiesced, and gave Orders to Mr Fowke to prepare the Quarters which have been the usual Residence of your Residents for the Prince's Reception The Governor General acquainted us that two Persons of Rank had accompanied Major Browne to Lucnow on the Parts of the Nabobs Mudjud ul Dowlah and Afiasiab Cawn The Governor General also informed us what the ostensible Objects of

their Depotation were that one of these Objects was to obtain the Prince's Return to Court, not that the Prince had positively refused to do so except on such Terms as should assure his own personal Safety and with it the Means of offering his Services to the King in whatsoever Manner and wherever His Majesty should be pleased to command them That the Governor General had joined with the Nabob Vizier in a Declaration that they neither would be guilty of Personal Violence to the Prince nor could consider his Majesty's Commands as intended to impose upon them an Act which would be both criminal in itself, and by its Example once transgressing the Ground of that reverential Awe which is impressed by the Descendants of the Royal Line might extend its Consequences even to the King himself and that His Majesty had been graciously pleased to signify his general Approbation of all that had been hitherto said and written that it remained therefore to negotiate the Prince's Return that the Governor General considered the Prince's Continuance at Lucknow as an Obstacle to every Accommodation and the Governor General states the Ground of this Opinion and the Advantages which are likely to accrue from the Prince's being known to have determined on a fixed Retreat under the Protection of a Power so much respected as that of the English Nation and the Governor [General] declares his Hope that we shall see the Justice of this Reasoning and its Consistency with the Line which we have generally proscribed for his Conduct on the Occasion The Governor General towards the Conclusion of his Letter informed us that Miranab Cawn with the Assistance and as it is supposed, with the advice of Nudjiff Coooly Cawn had surrounded the House of Muddud ul Dowlah with armed Force and carried him off a Prisoner to his Encampment and that they immediately afterwards proceeded to the Attachment of his Effects, and acquainted us with what he understood to be the Cause of this Outrage His Letter ended with informing us that the Nabob Vizier had agreed to allot the Sum of 25 000 Rupees to the Prince's monthly Subsistence.

75 We were content with acquainting the Governor General in Reply to this Letter that we had only to express our Hope that he would have received ours of the 8th in sufficient Time for his availing himself of a Knowledge of the Sentiments which we had then the Honor of communicating to him respecting the Residence of the Prince within the Territories of the Company

76 Your Accomptant at Lucknow has informed us under date the 5th of June that the Vizier's Mini[ster] had consented to the Accounts between His Excellency and the Company as stated by the Accomptant General and communicated to your Honble Court on the 10th March.

5th June

77 Our last Day's Proceedings in this Department were on the

30th June.

78 On this Day a Letter was recorded from the Governor General in which he informed us that he had remitted five Lacks of Rupees to Surat for the Aid of your Presidency of Bombay, and we took into Consideration another which had been addressed to us by the Governor [General] under Date the 13th in which he submitted to us his Plan of Reform in the Management of the Zemindarry of Benares^s We have the Honor to refer you for the perusal of it to the enclosed Copy of it, and for our several Opinions on it to the enclosed Extract of our Proceedings on the Subject You will observe by the Letter that we resolved to authorize the Governor General to carry the Plan into Execution, the Governor [General] being responsible, as he had declared himself willing for its Effect as a temporary Expedient, and an Exception being made to the 1st Part of that Article of it, which proposed that the Rajah should not refuse to delay his Authentication of such Papers, as should be presented to him, for we conceived that the Influence of such a Regulation might be understood, but that the Regulation itself should not be particularly declared or enforced by Government

79 The Governor General addressed us under Date the 14th June transmitting to us a Letter which he had received from His Excellency the Vizier with sundry Statements intended to shew an Excess of Charges in Mr Bristow's Accounts, particularly in the Batta charged on different Species of Rupees received on the Company's Account by Mr Bristow from His Excellency These Papers have been sent to Mr Bristow and we have desired his Reply to them

80 We have the Honor to inform you that we have been able through the Committee of Revenue assisted by their Dewan Gunger Govind Sing to raise five Lacks of Rupees upon Loan for the Relief of your Presidency at Fort St George and that this Remittance will be embarked in His Majesty's Cutter the Lizard which is going to the Coast

81 The following is the State of our Treasury this Day

Ready Money			
General Treasury		1,23,075-8-8	
Khalsay		29,082-6-3	1,52,157-14-11
Bills receivable			
General Treasury Sa	Rs 4,95,000-0-0	5,74,200-0-0	
Khalsay do	3,42,434-8-0	3,97,224-0-4	9,71,424-0-4
Mint			
General Treasury		1,16,000-0-0	1,16,000-0-0
Khalsay			
Unsorted Treasure			
Khalsay			
From Burdwan	2,177-5-0	valued at 10 Per Cent	
		better than C Rs	Rs 2,395-0-9
		Current Rupees	Rs 12,41,977-0-0

Balance Account Deposits		
Do Accomptant General to the Mayor's Court	1,20 161 13-9	
Do of the old Bonded Debt on which the Interest has ceased by public Advertizement	45 117-0-8	
Now Bonded Debt at 8 Per Cent	1 66 10 251 2-5	
11 Per Cent Remittance Loan Annuities	16 98 680-0-0	
	<hr/>	1 06 40 837 1 9

Fort William
5th July 1784.
[Per *Juno* frigate]

We have the Honor to be
Honble Sirs
Your most faithful humble Servants,
John Macpherson/John Stables.

25

LETTER DATED 12 JULY 1784

TO the Honble the Secret Committee of the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs,

We had the Honor of addressing you on the 15th of March last by the Earl of Oxford and of acknowledging our Receipt of your Secret Advices per Swallow bearing Date the 9th of September last containing a post-script dated the 10th of that Month. A Duplicate of that Address is herewith enclosed No 1 We were afterwards honored with a second Copy of your Secret Despatches by his Majesty's Frigate *Eurydice*

In Conformity to the Advice of our Intention which was conveyed to you in our Letter of the 18th March we transmitted a Copy of your Secret Packet with the enclosed Letter No 2 to the Honble the Governor General accompanied by several Propositions on the important Subject of it as per the enclosed Paper No 3 and expressed our Desire to receive the Benefit of his Opinion on them We have the Honor to enclose No 4 the Governor General's Reply to our Letter and No 5 a Copy of a Letter which we wrote on the 13th of April to your President and Select Committee at Fort St George and Bombay

Our Attention has been so much occupied by the various Occurrences which are related in our Letter to the Honble the Court of Directors by

the Packet under Dispatch, and by those that have passed in our other Departments, that we have not been able to consider the Governor General's Letter so attentively as we wished, and as the Subject did not appear to press for immediate Decision, we have permitted it to lay by till this Time, but we shall resume it in a few Days, and do ourselves the Honor of acquainting you by the next Dispatch with our Determinations upon it

We have the Honor to enclose No 6 a Return of the Disposition of your Forces on this Establishment on the 1th Instant

The Papers which attend you with this Address Nos 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 are Letters and their Accompaniments upon a Secret and very important Subject communicated to us by the Governor General, and not yet committed to Record, in Relation to the King Shah Allum and Affairs at Delhi No 13 is a Minute from Mr. Wheeler stating Questions to the Board arising from the Governor General's Letters, for our Opinion on them, and No 14 contains a Copy of those Opinions No 15 is a Copy of a Letter which we wrote in Consequence to the Governor General on the 6th Instant

We beg Leave to refer you to the Perusal of these Dispatches for the Facts and Opinions to which they relate, deeming it unnecessary to trouble your Honble Committee with any Comments on them

We have the Honor to be with great Respect,

Honble Sirs,

Fort William,
12th July 1781
[Per *Juno* frigate]

Your most faithful Humble Servants,
Edwd Wheeler/John Macpherson/John Stables

LETTER DATED 20 AUGUST 1784

Sindia's representation against separate treaty with Tipu—Madras Government's conduct in negotiating treaty with Tipu censured—views regarding conclusion of peace with country powers—omission of Nauab of Arcot's name in the treaty with Tipu

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs,

1. We have the Honor to transmit to you with this Address a Copy of that which we sent to Fort St George on the 5th of last Month to meet the Chance of our Opportunity's offering from that Presidency for its Conveyance to England, and now propose to continue to the present Time the Abstract which that Letter contains of our Proceedings to the Date of it

6th July

2 On this Day our Secretary laid before us a Letter which he had received from the Accomptant at Lucnow with sundry Accounts by which it appears that His Excellency the Vizier was indebted to the Company on the 31st of May in the Time of Fyzabad 16 San Sicca Rupees 52 43,891 6

3 The Commander in Chief transmitted to us a Letter from Colonel Pearse in which he informed us of the Arrival of your Troops under his Command at Peadapore which is at a short Distance from Rajahmundry where the Colonel had halted a few Days and obtained from Mr Daniel a small Supply of Cash for the Subsistence of the Detachment. The Commander in Chief observed that Colonel Pearse's Dependence was solely on us for future Supplies and confessed his Apprehension that the Colonel would not be able, where he then was to obtain Bills on this Government in which Case it would be absolutely necessary that we should take into Consideration his Proposals for sending Colonel Pearse a Supply of Specie but we agreed to wait for Colonel Pearse's Reply to our Letter of the 8th of June which gave him Authority to draw Bills on us for the Expences of his Detachment before we should pass any Resolution on this Subject.

13th July

4 A Letter is recorded from the Accomptant General in which he delivers his Report upon the Accounts received from Lucnow It attends you a Number in this Despatch We have also the Honor to enclose a Copy of a Letter which we received from the Governor General under Date the 20th of June in Respect to these Accounts and a Copy of our reply to it. The Governor General informed us under the same Date that he had enquired into the Charges preferred by Mr Bristow your late Resident at Lucnow against Almas Ally Cawn¹ and conceiving that the fairest and best Way of coming at the Truth of these Matters was to take the Evidence of such Gentlemen as were capable from Situation of giving him the most authentic Information he applied to Col. Ironside Colonel Sir John Cumming and Lieut James Anderson Copies of whose Letters together with the Governor General's letter to them he transmitted to us The Governor General at the same Time submitted to us the Propriety of calling upon Col James Morgan who lately commanded your Troops in the Field and who was now at the Presidency for his Information by putting the same Question to him that had been put to Colonel Ironside and Colonel Sir John Cumming We acceded to the Governor General's Desire and sent the following Question to Colonel Morgan for his Reply to it

5 Almas Ally Cawn having been charged with having entertained a Design of rebelling against the Nabob Vizier his Master and of raising the Artillery at Cawapore during the Interval of the Relief of the Brigades about the Close of last Year we desire that you will inform us whether any Thing

Poonah, he would recommend it to the Board to authorize him to send Sindia in their Name a written Declaration to the same Effect as that contained in the Governor General's Letter to him Mr James Anderson accordingly mentioned this to Madajee Sindia who received it with the highest Satisfaction, and his Minister Bow Bucksey who lately arrived at Lucnow on a Deputation of Friend[ship] from his Master reminded the Governor General of it

8. The Governor General submitted to us in consequence the Form of a Letter to be written by him to Sindia in the Name and under the Authority of the Board if it should obtain our Sanction which he earnestly solicited as it appeared to him and he hoped it would appear to us a Measure equally just and expedient

9 The Governor General informed us that he should have Occasion to enter more fully into the Subject of the Conferences which he had hold with Bow Bucksey since his Arrival at Lucnow and that in the mean Time it was with Pleasure he remarked to us that every Thing which had lately passed either betwixt Madajee Sindia himself and our Resident at his Court or in the Conferences which the Governor General had had with his Minister Bow Bucksey at Lucnow uniformly tended to manifest a strong Disposition to cultivate and strengthen the Friendship and Connections established betwixt him and the English Government

10. The Governor General's Letter concludes with the following Paragraph

It is in some Degree foreign to the present Subject yet I cannot refrain from imparting to you the pleasing Satisfaction which I myself feel in observing the great and evident Change which has within these few Years taken Place in regard to our Government in the Opinions and Dispositions of the principal Powers of Hindostan We seem now to have regained our former Weight in the Political System and the Neighbouring States who formerly shrunk from our Advances are eager to participate in our Views and to connect their Interest with ours

11 Upon the material Subject of this Letter we gave Orders to our Secretary to extract from the Correspondence of Messrs. Anderson of the Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay from the Information of the Commissioners deputed from Fort St George to the Nabob Tippoo Sultan and from the Letters received from your Resident at the Court of Hydrabad every Circumstance that threw Light on the Resolutions or Movements of the Marattas to carry into Effect the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salboy and to lay the same before us at the next Meeting

12 The only remaining Letter from the Governor General on our Proceedings of this Day is dated the 17th June and conveyed to us an Extract of a Letter which he had received from your Resident at Benares which strongly pointed out the Necessity of taking some immediate Measures in regard to that Country

13 Mr Brewster your late Resident at the Court of his Excellency the Vicer acquainted us that in Conformity to our Order to

Mr N Middleton under Date the 24th August 1781 he had collected and sent down the Salt Petre produced in the Vizier's Dominions during the Year of his Residency, and he solicited our Directions to the Board of Trade to receive it as it should arrive at the Presidency, and furnish him with Drafts on the Treasury for the Amount, at the Rate of five Sicca Rupees Per Maund, the Price fixed by our Orders Mr Bristow informed us that the whole Quantity was from forty five to fifty thousand Maunds, and he requested at the same Time, that in Conformity to the Agreement made with his Predecessor, the Duties which he had actually paid should be remitted, and Orders given for the free Landing of the Salt Petre as it should arrive here

14 Conceiving that the same Measure of Justice was due to Mr Bristow, that was allowed to his Predecessor, and as Mr Bristow received no Orders countermanding the annual Provision of Salt Petre to be sent to the Presidency, We were of Opinion that it would be improper not to accept Mr Bristow's Tender We therefore agreed to his Request, and issued the necessary Orders accordingly

15 We have the Honor to transmit to you enclosed, and to recommend to your attentive Perusal Copies of Letters recorded this Day from your Resident at Hyderabad, and a Copy of our Reply to them

16 A Letter from Col Pearse dated the 13th June from Rajahmundry informed us that the Troops under his Command had resumed their March having with much Difficulty got across the Codaveree and completed the crossing in seven Days

17 Your Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay not having complied with our Requisition made so long ago as the 25th February 1782 to be furnished with the most early and correct Estimates of their Receipts and Disbursements for the Current Year, nor our Desire that the same should be adjusted at the Termination of the Year with their Accounts for actual Receipts and Expenditures for that Period a corrected State of which we requested also might be transmitted to us as soon afterwards as possible with an Explanation of the Causes for any Encrease or Decrease on each Article contained in the Estimate, We repeated our Request that the same should be transmitted to us with all Expedition and continued from Year to Year, and that if the Statements could not be prepared in the Form which we had recommended, we desired that they would send them to us in such Form as might be more suitable to the Mode of framing the Accounts at either Presidency, and should shew us an Estimate of the Annual Demands on their Treasury and their Resources for answering them We also requested that your Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay would annually transmit to us Statements of their Quick and Dead Stock on the 30th April of each Year, as soon after the Period of their Formation as might be in their Power

21st July

18 A Letter is received from the Accomptant General explanatory

of the Questions which he proposed for the Board's Decision on them on the 13th Instant in respect to the Accounts with his Excellency the Vizier The Enquiry recommended by the Accomptant General to be made of Captain Welsh and Ramsay in respect to the Sale of the Horses belonging to the Cavalry of your Detachment which lately returned from the West of India was immediately ordered.

19 Mr James Grant who was appointed on the 2nd of July 1781 Assistant and eventual Successor to the Residency of Hyderabad and afterwards became your Public Minister at that Court having addressed us to be informed what Allowances he was to receive as netting in these Capacities and having offered to our Consideration the first Month's Bills for his Employ in those respective Stations we agreed in Consideration of the Reasons urged by Mr Grant to pass his Bills as Assistant and eventual successor to the Presidency at Hyderabad at the rate of Sixty Rupees 2 800 Per Mensem viz 1,300 for his Salary and Allowance and Sa. Rs 1,500 for his Public Expenses, but we would not determine on the Allowance that he should receive as your Public Minister at Hyderabad without a general Explanation of his Situation which he was therefore required to communicate to us.

20 The Secretary in Obedience to our Orders at the last Meeting laid before us this Day Extracts from the Correspondence of Messrs. Anderson, of the Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay from the Information of the Commissioners deputed from Fort St. George to the Nuboh Tippoo Sultan and from the Letters received from the Resident at the Court of Hyderabad containing every Circumstance that throws Light on the Resolutions or Movements of the Marattas to carry into Effect the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey A Copy of these Extracts attends you a Number in the Packet

27th July

21 The following Accounts which were transmitted with our Dispatch of the 5th July to the Secretary to your Honble Court by His Majesty's Cutter the Lizard via Fort St George are recorded on the Proceedings of this Day

1st. Account showing the Demands on our Treasury as they stood on the 31st December 1783 that Part which has been paid off between the 1st January and 30th June 1784 and the Balance which remained of the Demands on the 30th June.

2nd Account of Orders issued upon the Treasury and Bills of Exchange remaining unpaid on the 30th June 1784

3rd Account of Arrears due to the Army on the 31st May 1784

22. By the Nabob Vizier's Account with the Honble Company recorded also on this Day's Proceedings, it appears that His Excellency's Debt to the Company amounted to the Sum of Hyderabad 16 Sun Sixty Rupees 6 Annas 4 Paise on the 30th of Last June.

23 Having taken into our most serious Consideration the Proposition submitted to us by the Governor General in his Letter of the 26th June, that he should be authorised to write a Letter to Mahagee Sindia in the Name of the Board declaring "that we considered the Peace with Tippoo Sultan to have been the Effect of the 9th Article of the Treaty concluded with the Peshwa, that it is in Conformity thereto, and that the said Article which is still in Force, is no wise altered or affected by the Treaty with Tippoo Sultan," and having also read with Attention the Extracts from our Proceedings laid before us by our Secretary, in Obedience to our Orders of the 13th which tended to throw any Light on the Movements of the Marattas to carry into Execution the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey, we were apprehensive that such Declaration might have the Effect of forcing us into a Renewal of the War with Tippoo Sultan, and that it might be followed by a Demand for the Reimbursement of the Expence which the Marattas incurred in their Reparations for War to give Execution to the 9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey For these Reasons we declined authorising the solemn and specific Declaration proposed by the Governor General to be made to Sindia and beg Leave to call the Attention of your Honble Court to the joint Minute which we recorded on this Occasion, which will more fully explain to you the Arguments which influenced our Judgement in passing this Resolution

24 Colonel James Morgan has acquainted us in Reply to our Letter to him of the 13th that he entertained no Suspicions of the Designs of Almass Ally Cawn to seize on the Cantonments at Cawnpore about Christmas last, and to throw off his Allegiance to the Vizier, and having referred us to his Letter of the 16th December 1783 for his Sentiments of the Rumor which then prevailed that such was Almass's Intention We afterwards called on Mr Bristow to inform us whether during his Residence at Lucnow he had any other Reasons than those which he communicated to us for suspecting the Fidelity of Almass Ally Cawn to the Nabob Vizier

25 By a Letter from Colonel Peaise under Date the 13th July we were informed that he proposed to put the Troops under his Command into Cantonments near Siccacole in the Course of two Days, that he had, in Order to supply in some Measure the Wants of the Detachment, handed the Rice belonging to the Company from on Board a Vessel which lay Windbound at Jaggernautporam, that he had received our Letter authorising him to draw Bills on us on Account of the Expences of his Detachment, but that he could not expect to raise much Money by these Means where he then was, and that in his Opinion the only certain Mode of supplying his Wants was by Sea On Receipt of the Letter we directed the Adjutant General to lay before us the last Return of Colonel Pearse's Detachment

26 We received a Letter from your President and Select Committee at Bombay under Date the 15th June in which they acquainted us that General Macleod had arrived at Bombay with the Remains of His Majesty's 42nd and 100th Regiment[s], that the General had claimed the Command in Garrison as Senior Officer, but that his Claim was rejected in consequence

of your positive Orders to preserve the Command of your Forces and Garrison in your own Officers when it was found necessary to promote Lieut. Col. Nelson to the Rank of Brigadier General that they had received our Letter of the 20th April and transmitted to Madras a Copy of the Treaty with Tippoo Sultan duly ratified and that they meant to forward Copies of it and of our Minute of the 20th April to the Select Committee of your Honble Court by the Way of Bussora.

27 They also acquainted us that they had found it absolutely necessary to evacuate Cannanore without a Person being present on the Part of Tippoo Sultan, with which he seemed to be perfectly satisfied and that Tippoo was now employed in again reducing the Malahar Princes to his Obedience

28 On this Day we likewise received from your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George a Continuation of their Correspondence with the Marquis De Bussy relative to the Execution of the Definitive Treaty with France which we referred to our Foreign Department to be recorded there. Copies however will attend yon Numbers in this Dispatch.

29 As we had at this Time received no Acknowledgement from your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George of the Receipt of a Letter to them of the 8th June which conveyed to them a Duplicate Copy of the Treaty with Tippoo Sultan with the Clause declaratory of the Right of His Highness the Nabob Walaw Jah annexed to it Mr Wheeler delivered in a Minute in which he proposed that a Triplicate Copy of the Treaty and of the Dispatch which accompanied it with the Declaratory Clause should be transmitted by the Hands of an Agent on the Part of this Government to Fort St. George that the Delivery of it might be ascertained. The Proposition corresponded with one which your Honble Court will find recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th May. He also recommended that his private Secretary Mr Dickson should be appointed to perform this Duty with no other Allowance than for his unavoidable Expences, and that it should be given in Charge to him to avail himself of any Opening which might occur and of any Disposition that might be shown by His Highness of [sic] the Nabob Walaw Jah and Lord Macartney to bring their Difference[s] to a candid Discussion and if possible to a Termination by interfering in our Name for that Purpose

30 We did not come to any Resolution on Mr Wheeler's Proposal at this Meeting

31 Having received from Mr Grant the Explanation required by our Orders of the 21st of his Situation while Resident on the Part of this Government at the Court of the Nabob Nazam ul Mulck we agreed to authorize the Charge made by him on that Account from the 1st July 1752 to the 30th June 1754

32. We also came to a Resolution on this Day to renew our Investigation of the Establishment of the different Offices of Government for the purpose of effecting a Reduction of Expence and agreed to carry on the

proposed Investigation in the Secret Department

3rd August

33 The Accomptant General having laid before us Mr James Grant's Account with the Honble Company the Balance being Current Rupees 1,08,473 14 9 was ordered to be paid by the Civil Pay Master

34 The Opinions of the Board having been taken in Circulation since our last Meeting on the Proposal submitted to us by Mr Wheler of deputing Mr Dighton to Fort St George with Copies of our Dispatches of the 8th June, and Mr Macpherson having concurred with Mr Wheler in the Propriety of the Measure, Instructions were prepared for Mr Dighton's Guidance, in Conformity to the Opinion expressed by these Gentlemen, and Mr Dighton was instructed to transmit to us, the fullest and most authentic Information in his Power relative to the Proceedings of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan, and the Executions of such Stipulations in the said Treaty as he is bound to fulfill

35 Mr Stables on this Occasion did not agree in the Resolution of the Majority of the Board

36 We were informed by a Letter from your President at Hydrabad of the 8th Ultro that the Nazim had entered his Capital on the 1st and that the Time which had since elapsed was taken up in adjusting the Ceremonies of your Resident's Reception, which the Court had been inclined to make more humiliating than usual to please a Party of Marattas in the Neighbourhood who were in the French Interest, and headed, as Mr Johnson informs us, by Nana Furnavese, but that this Difficulty had been overcome, and the ensuing Day fixed on for Mr Johnson's Reception, on Terms sufficiently flattering but not obtained until every possible Trick and Evasion had been unsuccessfully used to avoid granting them

37 Mr Johnson also acquainted us that it was probable that there would be a speedy Rupture between the French Party in the Poonah Government, and that Party said to be in the Interest of the English, at the Head of which was Madajee Sindia, the ostensible Cause of the Dispute being the supposed Wish of Sindia's-Party to place the Son of Ragonaut Row in the Peshwaship

38. The Dispute between the Nazim and the Marattas relative to the Chout claimed by the latter, appears by the Intelligence which Mr Johnson has been able to procure to be compromised for the Sum of thirty two Lacks of Rupees to be paid by His Highness

17th August

39 Colonel Pearse having acquainted us by Letter of the 29th Ultro that he had negotiated a Remittance for five Lacks of Rupees for Bills on us at the Rate of 109 Sa Rs for 100 Arcots, and that he had drawn on us on that Day for Sicca Rupees two Lacs, at that Rate of Exchange, which was

the lowest he could possibly obtain we agreed to accept his Bills but at the same Time prohibited him from drawing on us for any further Sums which he could not take upon himself to declare to be absolutely and indispensably necessary for the Support of the Troops under his Command until their Arrival at Midnapore It appears from the Military Pay Master General's Report that the Arrears due to the Detachment will be CRs 7 12 000 at the End of the present Month

40 By a Letter since received from Colonel Pearse under Date the 2nd Instant we are informed that he has by taking the Rico belonging to the Company from a second Vessel which had put into a Port in the Neighbourhood been enabled to issue to the Troops Pay for December and Batta for November 1783 and that he proposed drawing on us for the remaining Part of the five Lacks of Rupees for which he had negotiated a Remittance in a few Days

41 Your Honble Court has been already informed of the Peace concluded with Tippoo Sultan at Mangalore on the 11th of March last The Stipulation by which the Commissioners of Fort St George bound this Government left us only the Alternative of refusing to ratify the Treaty in the Manner required by Tippoo or that of continuing the War after he had got Possession of Mangalore Onore and the valuable Conquests which Colonel Fullarton had been ordered to restore Though we had every Reason to disapprove of the Conduct of the Negotiation, though we had authentic Information that Tippoo had treated your Commissioners more as Prisoners of War than as free Agents and your Representatives though the Treaty itself was in various and important Articles contrary to our Instructions and subject to dangerous Constructions and though we doubted Tippoo's Adherence to any Part of it longer than Necessity compelled him still there was no Option left to us but to accede to the Ratification holding the Administration of Fort St George responsible for the Defect of the Treaty Our Minute in Consultation 20th April on the subject of the Treaty has been already transmitted to you and attends you in Duplicate by this Convoiance It was transmitted to the Administration at Fort St George with a Copy of the Treaty signed by us as required in the 10th Article The Shortness of the Time limited by that Article for the Transmission of a Copy of the Treaty so ratified to Tippoo precluded us from waiting for the Governor General's Signature to the Ratification.

42 The Minute of our Board transmitted to Fort St George with the Copy of the Treaty signed by us severally produced a Letter from Lord Macartney and your Select Committee dated the 3rd of June In Answer to that Letter the Labor of it & I reasoning its bold Assertions and criminating Implications it is sufficient to observe that the Remarks contained in our Minute on the Treaty are fully justified in the Face of the Treaty itself.

43 We had no other Light to guide us than a Copy of the Treaty &

the Administration of Fort St George had cautiously withheld from us any Account of the Proceedings of the Commissioners, nor have those Proceedings been to this Day transmitted to us, though we were told in the Letter of the 3rd of June that the Minutes of the Commissioners were copying. Whatever the Contents may be they are not now very interesting. The Measure [Manner] in which the Commissioners were treated by Tippoo, their own Disputes and Apprehensions, and the Declaration which they made in writing to General Macleod at Tellichery relative to the probable Duration of the Peace are but too well known. Amidst the Circumstances in which they stood in Tippoo's Camp it would be unjust perhaps to scrutinize or blame their Conduct. We have Reason to believe that some of them behaved with Firmness and Zeal to their Trusts. The original Error lay in committing them and their Negotiations into Tippoo's Hands, An Error we believe the most fatal, and the Source of worse Consequences than any step that was ever taken in your Councils in India. To have persisted in such a decided original Error after Tippoo had cut off all regular Communication between the Commissioners and their Principals at Fort St George was more unpardonable, and from the Moment that the Commissioners signed the fatal Order³ to Colonel Fullarton in December to stop his Career, and restore his Conquests unconditionally to Tippoo's Officers, there was a Stop put to their Correspondence with Madras, and they were led about through Tippoo's Dommons until the Time was expended in which Mangalore could have been relieved, and when the most Distinguished Gallantry of Lieut Col Campbell and his brave Garrison were obliged to yield to Treachery and Famine. Had the Commissioners been ordered to proceed to Colonel Fullarton's Camps, Had they carried on their Negotiation from that Ground, and had the first Experience of Tippoo's Treachery and Want of Faith in his Violation of the Treaty he had concluded with Lieut Colonel Campbell been seized by the Commissioners to relieve Mangalore and Onore, Tippoo had been kept in Check, The happy Termination or vigorous Continuance of the War had been at our Option, and the Revenues required by Colonel Fullarton amounting to no less a Sum than sixty Lacks of Rupees, which the Zemindars engaged for annually, would have supplied a Fund for the War at the Expence of the Enemy, and have enabled us to recover all the Prisoners that were in his Hands, We might then have talked in another Style to Tippoo relative to the barbarous Murder of General Mathews,⁴ and not have alluded to it, as Lord Macartney has in his Letter to Tippoo,

by calling such an Outrage to Humanity "*the*

See Lord Macartney's *suspicious Disappearance of General Mathews and his Letter to Tippoo*
Sultan 23th May 1784 *Officers*" To know such an Injury is to suffer all

that is painful, but to avow to the Author of the Murder of our Countrymen that we are not Ignorant of so deep an Injury while we profess Friendship for him and a Desire for Peace,—that is indeed to unveil the Weakness of Government and surrender every Feeling

44 Such is the Situation to which a weak Policy of a continued Solicitude for Peace with any Native Powers with whom we may be unfortunately at War and unprovoked on your Side must ever expose your Governments in India Readiness even to conclude Peace with these Powers is in their Eyes a Proof of Weakness and Inferiority and so perfectly is the Force of such a Maxim understood in their Disputes among themselves that there is no Medium in their Contests between absolute submission and the last Resistance My Lord Macartney with we don't not the best Intentions continually requested this Government, as he observes in the Letter of the

See Consn.
11th March, 1st
April 4th Sept
& 13th Octr 1783

3rd June to grant him Powers to negotiate with Hyder and Tippoo Our Answers to those Requests are on Record. We little imagined that an Argument could be drawn from those Answers to shew that our withholding Powers which when granted were so ineffectually

applied would now be stated as the Cause of Misfortune Hyder and Tippoo knew full well the respective Powers of the Administrations of Fort St George and of this Government When Hyder conceived that the Reduction of the Carnatic was not in his Power he made Advances of a pacific Tend

Consn. 26th
Augt 1782

ency to Sir Eyre Coote declaring at the same Time that he would not negotiate with the Administration of Fort St. George Your Honble Court is informed that

we instantly gave Sir Eyre Coote the necessary Powers. The subsequent Illness of Sir Eyre Coote his Disappointment about the Siege of Cuddalore and the unfortunate Necessity which obliged him to leave the Coast interrupted the Negotiation. The Death of Hyder and the coincident Defeat of Tippoo by Colonel

Consn. 18th
Novr 1782

Macleod on the other Coast presented the fairest Opportunities that Fortune could offer to render Negotiation complete and effectual These Opportunities were likewise favored by General Matthews's Reduction of Biscanore and his other Successes, but unfortunately Sir Eyre Coote was no more and before he was landed from on Board the Vessel which carried him to Fort St George the Administration there had prepared for his Reception but it was not to avail themselves of the powerful Effect of his Fame and superior Military Abilities It was to contest the Power of his Office and dispute the Exercise of

Consn. 7th May
1783

them The Armies of Fort St George were then under the absolute Command of that Presidency but a short sighted and most ruinous Oeconomy had stripped them of their Ability to move when even any Movement in Favor of General Mathews on the Rear of Tippoo's March against him must have assisted the former and embarrassed the latter General Mathews was obliged to capitulate after a most gallant Resistance unaided by the Presidencies whom he had so rapidly exalted and relieved Tippoo knew that the most effectual Way to negotiate was to reconquer the Dominions he had lost. The Negotiation through one of the Servants of Tanjore Intended by the Administration of Fort St George could not have impressed him with an high Idea of their Political Management He was pressing on the

Consn 14th
Nov 1783

of Mangalore when the News of the Convention of Cudalore⁵ arrived in his Camp, as well as the united Letter of the Marquis de Bussy and of our Commissioners offering and proposing Peace on the Grounds of the Preliminary Treaty in Europe It is a Fact that Tippoo made his most desperate Attacks upon Mangalore, after he was in Possession of those Letters The Resistance he met with disposed his French Auxiliary to avow the General Peace in Europe and to withdraw from his Camp, and he afterwards formally acceded to the pacific Offers made to him, but he still continued to invest the Place, and from the 2nd of August to the 11th of March, carried on that Chain of Intrigue, Treachery and Management which has put him in full Possession of all his Dominions, and left us a nominal and precarious Peace Such it most certainly appears from the Correspondence between him and Lord Macartney with which we have been at length furnished, and so far our Letter of the 8th of June has obtained Information and proved of Use Tippoo's still withholding so many English Prisoners, and so great a Body of the People of the Carnatic, the Movements of Troops towards Dindigul his Attack upon the Malabar Rajahs who assisted us in the late War, and who were included in the Treaty, his open Attack upon the Forts of the Rajah of Vencatgerry, (one of the Carnatic Zemindars), These ascertained Facts however they may be coloured in the Correspondence which is carrying on with Lord Macartney, announce most descriptively the Value and Solidity of the recent Peace with Tippoo

45 It will tend but little to the real Prosperity to your Affairs that you are now assured by the Administration of Fort St George that their Want of Plenary Powers to make Peace with the Invaders of the Carnatic, has been hurtful to your Interests, as if any Address, or any Refinement of Negotiation on their Part could have availed against Asiatic Cunning and Policy till the Invasion itself was once repelled To repel the Invasion, to carry War into the Country of the Invaders, to make Sacrifices to the Jealousy of Rival Native Powers, and let loose their Enmity against those Invaders--Such were the Labours of your Governor General and Council, Such were the Arts which they practised in negotiating for the Relief of the Carnatic But when Tippoo addressed the Governor General declaring that he wished

See his Letter to
the Govr Genl
Consn. 14th
Novr 1783

for Peace, and that he was ready to conclude it, then and not till then, did we vest the Administration of Fort St George with Plenary Powers We have the honor to enclose a Copy of Tippoo's Letter, which however is already before you with our Proceedings of the 17th November 1783 Had not the Administration of Fort St George intimated at the Time they first requested Plenary Powers for Negotiation with Hyder, an Idea of conceding to him some *unimportant Ports* on the Confines of the Carnatic, we should have been less scrupulous in granting them the most ample Powers for Negotiation It was to be suspected that the Native Agency through which Hyder suggested such a Wish might not remain uninformed had we granted the

Power of indulging it and from knowing that he might obtain unimportant Ports he would struggle to obtain his favorite Object Trichinopoly which would open to him the future Command of Tanjore and the Southern Provinces At all Events the Administration of Fort St George Possessed in their own Constitution sufficient Power to receive the Propositions of the Enemy or to sound and ascertain his Views If Peace could be obtained in either Way the Reference necessary to be made to this Government, and known to be so by the Enemy was rather a favorable Circumstance to give Scope to Negotiation In cases of real Necessity or absolute Advantage they possessed legal Powers or might certainly have assumed Powers to treat upon the Terms of Peace if not to conclude one

46 We should not have dwelt so long upon the Subject had not the Scenes that are likely to open in the Carnatic rendered it equally necessary that you should possess a clear View of past Events undisguised by partial Representation as it is highly necessary that you should be prepared against those Embarrassments which an unsteady and delusive Peace must render critical in Proportion as it promises Security Apprehension from any Country Power or a Combination of them is but a secondary Consideration when we look to the Situation and probable Designs of our European Rivals and natural Opponents We have accordingly been very watchful relative to the Conduct of the Marquis De Bussy or any Views he might have or Protext he may lay hold of for disturbing the Peace of India and that of the Carnatic in particular That renowned statesman, disappointed in all his great Designs and the proportionate Expectations of his Nation in India has not remained in the Carnatic to add future Inactivity to the Abortion of his grand and original Design He is fully informed of the Distress of our Finances the Oppression of our Native Allies in the Carnatic and the general Disappointment in which the Native Powers were obliged to dissolve their Combination in consequence of the Maratta Peace. Since the Receipt of some Advice from your Secret Committee of September last we have been particularly attentive to Monsr Bussy's Conduct Management and Opinion as far as we could be informed of them

47 An Expression in one of his Letters to Fort St George in which he took Care to record the Result of his Remarks on the Declarations of the Commissioners at Cuddalore about the Nabob of Arcot struck us in a very strong Light The Passage of the Letter has since been the Subject of Discussion between the Government and the Administration of Fort St George In whatever Manner Monsr Bussy meant to avail himself of the supposed Declaration of the Commissioners about the Power of the Nabob and our future Assumption of it his Sentiments are on Record It is evident he meant that they should be so and whatever Turn may now be given to them or whether the Commissioners ever gave Cause or not for his Letter cannot alter the Fact that he told the Government of Fort St George early and on Record that their Commissioners had

See Letter from
the Marquis de
Bussy to Lord
Macartney 18th
Sept. 1783

signified to him that we had no Allies, that we no longer considered Mahomed Ally Cawn as such, and that the Sovereignty of the Carnatic belonged to us which we would demonstrate in a proper Time and Place" Mr Bussy adds "You recollect no Doubt my answer to that Assertion

which renders necessary a Discussion which could not then take Place" It is well observed by My Lord Macartney that the Circumstance of Monsr Bussy's becoming an Advocate for Mahomed Ally ought to put us on our Guard But it does not follow that when he takes Notice of our proposed and absolute Usurpation of the Nabob's Right, he takes Notice of the Proposition as a Friend to the Nabob He took Notice of it as the Opponent of those who usurped the Power, not as the Advocate of him from which it was stript, for in the List of India Princes given to him by his Court, and for whom it was likely he should become an Advocate, the Name of Mahomed Ally was not to be found though the Names of other Princes in the Carnatic were in the same List

48 The Attention at first attracted by Mr Bussy's recorded Declaration in his Letter to Fort St George of September last was called seriously back to our Remembrance when we found that the same Commissioners who in their Discussions with Mr Bussy were alledged to threaten the Supersession of the Nabob's Rights, as Lawful Nabob of the Carnatic, had absolutely excluded him from the Treaty with Tippoo as a Party in it, and that he had been no more considered in the Treaty than his own Zemindar the Rajah of Vencatgerry

49 We were the more struck with this Omission or studied exclusion of the Nabob's Title,⁶ as Tippoo had made the Nabob's signing of the Treaty a Condition in the first Proposals presented by his Vackeels at Fort St George Those Proposals were his own voluntary Requests, and that among them which related to the Nabob Walaw Jah appeared from his subsequent Conversations with General Macleod at Mangalore to be particularly his Wish, and exclusive of every other Consideration the original Pretext of Claims against the Nabob personally for Trichinopoly was a strong Reason for a mutual Extinction of the Claim and the Resentment which Tippoo would naturally attribute to Mahomed Ally as a Consequence arising from the Claim

See Proposals
Appagge Ram &
Sunevas Row
Consn 18th Nov
1783

See Consn
31st Decr 1783

50 In our Minute on the Treaty we took Notice to the Administration of Fort St George of the Omission or studied Exclusion of the Nabob's Name as a Party in it, but our more weighty Objections at the Time went to the Disregard of the 9th Article of the Maratta Treaty, and the Consequences in which that Disregard might involve us with the Marattas, especially as we had Reason to believe from our last Letters from Bombay, that we were more indebted for the Peace itself to Tippoo's Alarms from the Marattas than to the utmost Exertions of the Commissioners of Fort St George The Lights which we had to guide us, and which were

transmitted to us from Bombay such Copies of the Notes that passed between the Commissioners and the Captain of the Hawke, Indiaman in the Road of Mangalore the Alarms expressed for their personal Safety at the Moment of Negotiation the Arrival of General Macleod in the Road the Intelligence given to him of the disgraceful Situation of the Commissioners by one of their Servants These Lights which were all we had when our Minute was written or have since received officially relative to the Situation and Management of the Commissioners left us to suppose that Tippoo's Conclusion of the Peace such as it stood must have originated from any other Motives than those which the Commissioners could have suggested Apprehension from the Marattas appea[rs] the most probable Cause unless we could attribute the Conclusion of the Treaty to the Spirit of General Macleod's Letter to Tippoo sent to him the very Day before or on which the Treaty was signed by him General Macleod told him that unless he admitted his free Communication with the Commissioners he would consider them as Prisoners nor would he abide by their Orders but proceed immediately to take the Command of his Army and renew the War

51 The General Character of Tippoo his Letter to Lord Macartney foretelling the Consequences of permitting the Commissioners to put the Districts conquered by Coll Fullarton into Tippoo's Hands before the Treaty was signed and all the Prisoners released his Declaration of Tippoo's previous Resolution to keep many of the Prisoners These Intimations were not attended to at Fort St. George nor was the Letter in which they were contained no more than any regular Account of Colonel Fullarton's Transactions communicated as they ought to have been to this Government

52 Before we received the Observations contained in the Letter from Fort St. George of the 3rd of June in Answer to our Minute on the first Perusal of the Treaty with Tippoo Letters arrived from the Nabob of the Carnatic which gave a very serious Colour to what we at first admitted as a possible Omission in the Treaty The Nabob's Letter on the Occasion speaks more pointedly and expressively than any Language we can make

Use of His Words are as follow The Use his Lordship has made of those Powers has been indeed to make a Peace but gracious Heaven! in what inadequate Terms for the Public and how dreadful how absolutely ruinous to me the ancient Friend and steady Ally of the English Nation

My secret Predictions are alas fulfilled and having by Accident procured a Copy of the Treaty how shall I describe the Agitation I suffered at the Total Omission of myself as Nabob of the Carnatic or as an Ally of the Company or the King of Great Britain so contrary to the General Treaty with the Marattas in which the present Peace is or ought to be founded while my Dependants of Tanjore and Travencore are included as Allies, and even my Dependant of Venkatgerry takes the lead where

See Letter from
Bombay 26th
March and
Enclosures

Letter from the
Nabob of Arcot
[to] Mr Wheeler
dated 27th March
1784

from Necessity the Name of Mahomed Ally is mentioned on Account of the Prisoners, but it is not the Indignity only which overwhelms me with Sorrow, I fear, my Friend, that this Exclusion only precedes and forms the Ground Work of his Lordship's absolute and long projected Seizure of my Country to my irreparable Destruction, and that of my devoted Family and I hear that should his Lordship receive Orders from England for my Restoration to my Countries, he is resolved to refuse or protract Obedience on the Grounds of this Treaty" And again "You will perceive

Letter from the
Nabob of Arcot
to Mr Wheler
dated 29th March
1784

from the Treaty of Peace concluded with Tippoo by his Lordship's Commissioners, that no Mention is made of me as Nabob of the Carnatic, or as an Ally of the English, and from the ceaseless Rancour which has inspired his Lordship's Conduct, you must at once perceive

that such an Omission is aimed not only at my Degradation, but absolute Destruction " We had signed the Treaty under a recorded Declaration of holding the Administration of Fort St George responsible for it's Defect, if it appeared that these could have been prevented We understood that some of the Prisoners had been already set at Liberty and had arrived in the Carnatic Our Ability for continuing the War to obtain a more adequate Peace had as we have already observed been surrendered and most unreasonably to the Enemy Peace under any form in which it promised to be permanent was not only desirable but irresistibly necessary Mangalore, Onore and Cannanore, the Stations from which the Enemy was vulnerable, were lost and given up Bombay had lost an Army, and the Resources which we had sent to them were expended Colonel Fullarton's Conquests were again to be regained in Case of War, but there was an Argument of as much Weight with us as any that Necessity could create The Powers which we gave to Fort St George to negotiate were absolute even to conclude the Treaty with Tippoo It was concluded solemnly, it's Errors, Omissions and Defects were not so apparent to the World on the Face of the Treaty itself, as we know them to be from our Situation with other Powers, and the systematic Duplicity and Disaffection which Tippoo had hitherto testified in all his Transactions, besides the Administration of Fort St George had already ratified the Treaty, and had transmitted it as such to Tippoo To have disavowed the Treaty, or to have avoided to sign it in the Terms of the 10th Article, would have been a Measure full of Difficulty, unproductive of real Good, and it might have led to the last Sacrifice of our Countrymen who had already suffered more than Humanity seemed formed for suffering in the Hands of a merciless Enemy In the Course of our Communication with the Governor General at Lucnow his Opinion with Regard to the Treaty with Tippoo corresponded in every Point with our own, and was transmitted to us before he could have any knowledge of the Minute with which we had accompanied the signed Copy of the Treaty to Fort St George

53 It occurred to the Governor General in Addition to the Measures we had resolved upon, or to render future Measures unnecessary, to accom-

pany our intended Ratification of the Treaty with a Declaratory Clause to which Tippoo would probably have no Objection and which would not only obviate the Omission of the Nabob Walaw Jah's Name as a Party in the Treaty but vindicate this Government and the Honor of the Company and the Nation from the injurious and even impolitic Imputation of our having founded new Rights to the Carnatic on any Title we could derive to it from a Treaty with Tippoo and which excluded the Rights acknowledged to Mahomed Ally in the Treaty of Paris and the late Definitive Treaty with France.

54 The Introduction of a Declaration which corresponded with Tippoo's original Wishes, which acquired no Concession on his Part but which tended to prove the Fidelity of our Nation a Fidelity which could not be violated to our first Ally without rendering it suspicious to Tippoo himself. The Introduction of such a Declaration leaving it even optional with Tippoo to receive it as Part of our complete Ratification of the Treaty appeared to us a Measure full of every Inducement to embrace it. The Appearance which it would preserve with the World the unexpensive Satisfaction it would afford the earliest most steady yet most oppressed Ally of the Company and above all the Degree in which such a Declaratory Clause would obviate the Exceptions which the Marquis De Bussy had early proposed to make against our Violation of the established Constitution of the Carnatic. These Reasons and the very responsible Situation in which we stand to our Employers were the Grounds of our Letter of the 8th of June last to the Administration of Fort St George. We informed them that it was necessary for us to put the dubious Question of the studied Omission of the Nabob's Name in the Treaty with Tippoo to Issue. We shall not here recapitulate the Arguments nor comment upon the Force of our Letter but send it a Number in the Packet. The Question which we stated to the Administration of Fort St George involved in our Opinion the Public Faith of the Nation in India. It brought our Character as Allies to more than a suspicious Imputation and in a most striking Instance it involved an Avowal in the Face of all the Powers of India of open Usurpation an Avowal which could neither escape the knowledge and Opposition of our natural Enemies nor make in Substance nor in Name any Addition to our real Influence in the Carnatic. Unless you are already informed of the Answer of the President and Select Committee of Fort St George to our Remonstrance and Injunctions of the 8th of June your Honble Court will not be able to anticipate it by any previous Judgment.

55 If the Exclusion of the Nabob of Arcot's Name from the Treaty with Tippoo as a Party concerned had been the Wish of that Chief it was easy to state the Facts and to allege Tippoo's Objections the Difficulty of surmounting them and the general Necessity of Affairs which demanded a Compliance with Tippoo's Determination. The Proceedings of the Commissioners might attest their Endeavours at least to oppose such an Indignity to our Ancient Ally. If the Nabob Walaw Jah had disapproved of the Treaty and had objected to be a contracting Party in it as he had

done in the former Treaty of 1769 with Hyder—the Introduction of the Carnatic Administration under the Name *Carnatic Payneghaut*⁷ would have afforded a reasonable justification. The Nabob might object to include the different Rajahs of the Carnatic in a Treaty that he signed as a Principal. Other Explanations might have been expected why His Highness's Name was not introduced as a contracting Party, and if the superior Government of Fort William thought the Introduction of the Nabob's Name or the Acknowledgement of his Rights as Nabob of the Carnatic, an essential Condition of the Treaty with Tippoo, it would be natural to imagine that the Administration of Fort St George would not make any Opposition to the Measure provided it could be effected through the Means of a Declaratory Clause connected with the final Ratification of the Treaty itself, or by any amiable and subsequent Arrangement with the Chief of Mysore.

56 In Contradiction to such natural Suppositions how much must you be surprized to find that the Right Honble President and Select Committee of Fort St. George have in a Manner avowed the Exclusion of the Nabob's Name in the late Treaty, and they describe that Exclusion as a systematic Arrangement that fixes on you the Principal titled Right to a Country which you have purchased at such an Expence of Blood and Treasure. They State the Acquisitions restored to the Marattas to purchase the Security of the Carnatic. They remind us of the Situation of the Nabob of Bengal. They inform us that the Marquis De Bussy was pleased with the Candour of their Proceedings on explaining their Ideas about the Nabob, and though the Proposition of not communicating the Declaratory Clause about the Nabob Walau Jah to Tippoo was prevented by the Right Honble President's casting Vote, We are informed by Lord Macartney that sooner than obey a Repetition of our Orders about the Declaratory Clause, he will resign his Office⁸ however prejudicial such a Resignation may be to his private Fortune, all the other Members of the Select Committee unite in declaring that his Lordship's removal from his Government would be attended with the most fatal Consequences to the Company, and with a peculiar Species of Respect for this Government, if not a premature Zeal to discharge their Duty to the Company, the Members of the Select Committee most solemnly and formally protest against the Governor General and Council. A Protest is an Act of Business and a serious Act when it is in the Name of so respectable a Power as your Honble Court and regards the great Interests of the Nation. The Words of the Protest speak the Clearness of Forms though they place the Meaning of the Administration of Fort St George in an awkward Predicament. The Words are "The Committee *therefore* do upon the Presumption that *it may be* the *Intention* of the Governor General and Council to remove the Right Honble President from his Station, *hereby* on Behalf of the Honble East India Company solemnly *protest* against such *Act*, and declare the Governor General and Council solely responsible for all *Consequences*" To protest against *Intentions* is not a common Practice and if it had been authorized by Law

or Custom the Practice may be endless and as wide in its Range as the Operations of Suspicion Bnt to protest against an Act that is not an Act for it has not taken Place and against its Consequences too must certainly be as much out of Form as it is inconsistent with the Official Respect that was at least due to this Government If you will please to consider further that this intended Removal of Lord Macartney was to be the Act of his own Pleasure in Reference and Obedience to a Repetition of the Orders of the Governor General and Council it will appear still more extraordinary to hold your Governor General and Council responsible either for a Disobedience of their own Orders or the voluntary Determination of the Governor of Fort St George. The Protest to be justifiable ought to have been established on some actual specific Grounds. But to disobey Orders and in the same Breath to protest against the supposed Consequences of the Disobedience is we believe a descriptive Testimony of the cooperative Disposition and Precision of your ruling Servants at Fort St George. If you have Time and Patience to peruse the repeated Discussions of the same Subject under the various Forms of Minutes of your Right Honble President—Invectives against this Government—the Dangers from Ameer ul Omrah's Intrigues—the Ambition of his Fath[er] after he has been stript of every Village as well as every Fort in his country the fatal Enmities against Mysore—the extensive Attentions of this Government to the Nabob's fictitious Grievances with repeated Declarations that no Aid in Specie has been sent from hence to Fort St George since the Death of Sir Eyre Coote—if a Repetition of such Details can interest your Attention you will find them again renewed in the Dispatch of the 31st of July from Fort St George you will likewise find an Argument laid much stress on for the Exclusion of the Nabob from being a Party in the Treaty with Tippoo—vizt because he was not made such in our own Maratta Treaty But did not the Maratta Treaty stipulate that Hyder Ally should restore to the Nabob Mahomed Ally the Country taken from him and how could Mahomed Ally be a contracting Party in a Treaty with the Marattas, when they had not been at War with him nor had molested his Country Their Ally Hyder had been at War with him, and they stipulated that Hyder should be obliged to restore to him the Country that had been taken from him. But the Maratta Treaty did not stipulate that the Nabob's Country should be restored to the English and it may be their Opinion that while Mahomed Ally has any Influence in the Carnatic that Interest must be more favorable to them than to their Neighbour Tippoo But it is not the speculative Conjections about future and similar Events to which we must now apply our Thoughts. The Dispatch of the 31st of July from Fort St George will raise your Anxiety in a double Force You will feel very seriously alarmed at the Representation which is presented to you of Tippoo's Readiness to renew the War his Conduct cannot be considered in any other Light than that of preparatory Hostility and it is the more dangerous as the Administration of Fort St George endeavours to consider it as specific The Picture drawn of the Distress of our Finances in every Presidency and of

the actual Embarrassments of the Company at Home needed not to have been stated to convince us of its Reality, and the Moments of even a Truce, if they are well employed, are interesting and not to be forfeited without Necessity. If it is true that any Communication of our Directions to Fort St George of the 8th of June relative to the Declaratory Clause would have alarmed Tippoo so as to draw on a new Invasion of the Carnatic, the Committee of Fort St George judged properly in postponing any Obedience to our Directions. But we have every Reason to believe that the Communication of the Declaratory Clause could not have produced any Suspicion in Tippoo's Mind, on the contrary, the Additional Signature of the Governor General to the Ratification, must have been satisfactory to him, nor could a Testimony of our Faith to an old Ally, have been displeasing to him. Suspicions about the Consequences of the Declaratory Clause seems to have laid hold of another Mind, and to have produced a violent Resolution. The Proposition of the Clause to Tippoo would produce an Explanation of the Management by which the Nabob's Name was excluded contrary to Tippoo's first Proposal. But supposing that Tippoo might not be pleased with the Declaratory Clause, the Communication of it might have been made without Danger. It might be left to his Option, nor could the possible Danger of offending him, nor even Want of Resource warrant a general Timidity of Councils. That Timidity could not be long unmarked by Tippoo. The Knowledge of it would regularly lead him from continued Insult to open Demand, and force on the Contest which the Administration of Fort St George was laboring by every Sacrifice to avoid. The Respite of a Peace obtained by such Concessions, or the Moments of a Truce so purchased, cost dearly in the End. We are confident it would be better Policy not to discover so much Apprehension in regard to Tippoo, and that the best Security for the Continuance of Peace with him is to assert every Right of that Peace with Firmness, to explain every Point of it that is subject to Doubt with a manly openness, and to be prepared to repel his first Attempts of Hostility with Spirit and with Force.

57. It would be more for the real Interest of the Company and the Nation to withdraw our Forces entirely from the Carnatic, and abdicate the Country, than to hold it on the Principles and destructive Expence of so weak and conceding a System. We venture to think more favorably of our own Force and Resources, and less formidably of the Successor of Hyder. The Power of Mysore must have been greatly weakened, and its Finances equally exhausted with our own, during the late Invasion of the Carnatic. We command the Sea, and are now fully acquainted with every Part of Tippoo's Dominions, and should he invade the Carnatic Tomorrow, the War must be carried into his own Country on the other Coast, where Experience has taught him to feel that he is vulnerable.

58. It is to the Negotiation of Fort St George, the Consequence it gave him among his own People, while the Commissioners were led about among them for six Months, from October to March that Tippoo

is at present indebted for the Submission of his rebellious Generals, and the undisputed Possession of his Father's Musnad. His Cruelty and the Resentment it has excited not only among our Troops but likewise among his own must prove a serious Obstacle to his Success in any future Contest with our Arms. His Conduct to his French Auxiliaries has been at once barbarous and impolitic and such as must prove a lasting Obstacle to that cordial and systematic Alliance between them, which we have most to apprehend. In a Word if Tippoo is so very formidable the present Administration of Fort St. George are answerable for having permitted his Power to have risen to such a Height and should he be either ambitious to renew the War or violent in his Demands, Firmness in our Councils and Speediness in our Preparations are our best Securities against him.

59 Having given our Sentiments so fully on the subject of the late Peace with Tippoo and the progressive Mismanagement under which the Negotiation was conducted from its Commencement in July to its Close in the ensuing March Having given you a Detail of our Correspondence with Fort St. George on the objectionable Parts of the Treaty and stated the refusal of the President and Select Committee to comply with our Orders of the 8th of June together with their violent Protest and alarming Representations, Your Honorable Court will be desirous to know the Measures which we propose to adopt in consequence of so decided an Opposition to our Authority an opposition founded on Principles which we cannot think warranted by Political Necessity nor justified on the Ground of Public Duty. If the Nabob of Arcot is not the principal Ally of the Crown in India who is meant as our Ally in the 10th Article of the last Treaty of Peace with France we know not who the Allies alluded to are. Your Honorable Court in your last Dispatch of the 27th of January declare him *your Ally*—you trust *his Possessions* are secured to him, and you order us to use our best offices with him for a Reduction of his Military Expences. That Ally appeals to us for Justice he has been stripped of his Resources denuded of every species of Authority civil criminal or military over his own subjects and Country till at length he beheld an Instrument of final Oppression prepared against him in a solemn Treaty with his Enemy. A Treaty which to his Apprehension was on the Principle of a cruel Fiction in Law and Justice to exclude him for ever from the Musnad of the Carnatic and bar against him every redress that he expected from you as the Guardians of the Company's Faith. This is no exaggerated Picture of Oppression and the oppression itself (independent of the Circumstances of Compassion due to the Prince on whom it falls as your earliest and most deserving Native Ally) is committed on the most conspicuous Stage of your Affairs and before the Eyes of European Rivals and the first Powers of Hindostan. The most necessary Influence and Character of this Government is therefore peculiarly concerned in the Transaction for in permitting the Oppression we are either a Party or deficient in Power.

60. Were we therefore to attend to the Disobedience of our Orders

and the Indignity offered to our Controul by the Administration of Fort St George, there could not be a Hesitation on our Parts regarding the Measures which we ought to pursue on the present Occasion, and the present is neither the first nor the second Occasion on which your Right Honble President and Committee have in a Manner defied the severest Exercise of the controuling Powers of this Government But we have been unwilling, for many Reasons, to proceed to so violent an Extremity

61 From My Lord Macartney's particular Representation, and the Alternative which he has resolved to adopt, it is evident that he either apprehends that an immediate Rupture with Tippoo is inevitable at perhaps all Events, or the other Embarrassments of his Situation dispose him to quit his Office and charge his own Resolution to our Proceedings A Resignation or Removal from his Government on either Ground could not, we apprehend, be supplied by more efficient Abilities, or equal Weight of Character in the regular Line of Succession among your Servants in Council at Fort St George This ought not to be a secondary Consideration with us The Points on which we have essentially differed with them have been long in Appeal to you, our mutual Superiors, and we are in continual Expectation of your Decision Besides we hope, on the return of the Governor General to be able to adopt some Arrangement, either by an Article of a special explanatory Treaty with the Nabob Walaw Jah, or a direct Correspondence between the Governor General and Tippoo, that may palliate the Defects of the late Treaty with Tippoo, and place our Situation in the Carnatic on a more liberal and secure Footing, without proceeding to the Extremity of any violent Measures against your ruling Servants at Fort St George At all events, your Honorable Board may rest assured that we are determined most scrupulously and guardedly to avoid every Measure that can have any Tendency to a Renewal of Hostilities with any Power of India, or any of the States of Europe My Lord Macartney cannot express a stronger Zeal for preserving the general Tranquility than we actually possess, nor can he regret the distress of your Finances more feelingly than we truly lament it The Finances of the Empire at large, and in the Capital of the Parent State labour under a general Distress, but we should be sorry to think that the Rulers of our Nation would on that Account relax in maintaining or asserting the Dignity of the State with Foreign Powers Such a Conduct would even in Europe provoke the Danger it was shrinking from, But a similar Conduct in this Country it would accelerate Ruin, and speedily involve us in a general War from the Source of the Ganges to the Southern Extremity of India

62 We have the Honor to send Numbers in this present Dispatch Copies of two Letters which we have received from His Highness the Nabob Walaw Jah We informed the Nabob some Time since that our Candor to the President and Select Committee at Fort St George we wished that they should have Opportunities of vindicating themselves

upon every Charge against their Conduct, and should be obliged by His Highness observing it as a Rule to communicate to them Copies of the Complaints or Representations to this Government at the same Time that he transmitted them to us.

63 By the Correspondence between our Resident at Hydrabad and the Right Honble. President and Select Committee at Fort St. George recorded on this Day's Proceedings it appears that the Gentlemen at Fort St. George were desirous of obtaining the Permission of His Highness the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn to pursue Appason (a rebellious Zemindar, dependent on the Circar of Rajahmundry) into the Zemindarry of Beld arhellam in His Highness's Dominions where he had taken Refuge and wished Mr Johnson to request His Highness's Consent to this Measure in which we have since been informed the Nazim very cheerfully acquiesced. The same Correspondence informs us that Tippoo Sultan still continues his Hostilities against the Venecatgerry Rajah one of whose Forts named Kharinagerry within 16 Coss of Ongole had but lately surrendered.

64 Mr Johnson was introduced to His Highness the Nazim on the 10th Ultio and had his first Audience on the 15th when he was received with much Attention. His Highness appeared perfectly satisfied with the Apology made by Mr Johnson for the Delay in the Payment of the Arrears of Peshcush the Necessity of which he admitted and was pleased with the Assurances given him of our steady Adherence to the Treaty of 1768.

65 In Addition to the Instructions which we had formerly given to Mr Johnson We now directed him to obtain every Information in his Power of the Interest possessed by the French at the Court of the Nabob Nazim what Agent on the Part of that Nation may be in His Highness's Dominions, what Views such Agent may have and under what Powers they act.

66. In Reply to our Orders of the 27th Ultimo to Mr Bristow, that

5th Nov	1782	Gentleman acquainted us that he had no other Reasons for
30th Aug.	1783	suspecting the Fidelity of Almass Ally Cawn than those
4th Oct.	DO	communicated to us in his Letters noted in the Margin,
9th Nov	DO.	which are already before your Honble Court. Transcripts
11th DO.	DO	of these Letters, and of Colonel Morgan's Letter recorded
13th Dec.	DO	on our Proceedings of the 27th Ultio have been transmitted
20th DO	DO.	to the Governor General.
22nd DO.	DO.	
6th Jan.	1784	
11th DO	DO.	

67 We received a Letter today from Mr Bushby the late Secretary of the Board of Inspection laying before us an Abstract of what had been done in the Secret Department of Inspection in the Years 1782 and 1783 with respect to the Reduction of Expenses. A Copy of it is enclosed for your Information. We have determined to consider it at our next Meeting, and we shall proceed with every Dispatch in the Objects of Reform which have of late been so strongly recommended by your Honble. Court

68. The following is the State of the Treasury this Day.

Ready Money

General Treasury ... ..	.53,628 15.5	
Khalsah... ..	25,977.4 -	
		79,606 3 5

Bills Receivable

General Treasury	2,72,600 - .-	
Sa Rs 2,35,000		
Khalsah 2,17,888 11 4	2,52,750 14 4	
		5,25,350 14 4

Mint

General Treasury	-. -	
Khalsah.. . . .	-. -	
		-. -

Unsorted Treasure

Valued at 10 Pr Cent better than CRs	-. -	
		Crs. 6,04,957 1.9

Balance Account Deposits ..9,37,994 -.7

Do Accomptant General to the

Mayor's Court.1,20,161 13 9

Do. of the old Bonded Debt on which the Interest has ceased by

Public Advertisement ...45,117 - 8

New Bonded Debt at 8 Pr Cent 1,66,49,007 12 11

4 Per Cent Remittance Loan 16,96,680 - -

Annuities --.- 1,94,48,960 11 11

Diminution in the Deposits

from 16th to 20th Augt 1784 6,236 1 10

Fort William,
20th August 1784

[Per *Surprize*]

We have the Honor to be, Honble. Sirs,

Your most faithful humble Servants,

John Macpherson/John Stables

27

LETTER DATED 13 NOVEMBER 1784

[Foreign Department]

Restoration of Dutch possessions

To the Honble the Court of Directors

Honble Sir,

We had the Honor to address you from this Department by the Ship Earl of Oxford on the 16th of March last, and shall transmit to you by

the Sonthampton which will sail at the Beginning of next Month a continuation of the Detail of our Proceedings since that Period. But as we are about to dispatch a Packet to Bombay to be conveyed to you by way of Bussora we think it necessary to furnish you with a short account of our Proceedings on an application which we received from the Governor General and Council of Bntavia to deliver over the Possessions captured from the Dutch Nation in Bengal to the Chief and Council appointed by them to receive Charge of them and on a further application which was made to us by the Governor and Council of Columbo to interpose our Authority to procure the Restoration of their Possessions on the Coromandel Coast Stipulated by Treaty to be given up to them as well as that Trino should be delivered over to their Agents immediately after we were put in Possession of it by the Franch, agreeably to the Terms of a Stipulation said to have been agreed upon between the two Courts of London and Versailles

At the Time that these Requisitions were made to us the Members who Composed the Board were the late Mr Wheler and Mr Macpherson

Before we came to any Resolutions on the Points contained in them it became necessary to peruse with Attention the Correspondence which your President and Select Committee at Fort St George had carried on with the M de Bussy and with the Governor of Columbo since the Arrival of the definitive Treaty with France and which is already before you as well as the Orders of your Honble Court of the 24th September 1783 and those of his Majestys Secretary of State addressed to your Chairman and Deputy and to his Majestys Commanding Officers in India by Sea and Land under Date the 10th October 1783

The Indisposition of Mr Wheler and the Absence of Mr Stables for the Benefit of his Health having imposed upon Mr Macpherson the Duty of taking the Lead in proposing the Measures necessary to be adopted on this Occasion that Gentleman after having given the most deliberate Attention to these Documents [sic] expressed his Opinion that your President and Select Committee at Fort St George had adhered too scrupulously to the Letter tho not to the Spirit of your Orders of the 24th September 1783 and had thereby left the M de Bussy in actual Possession of Trinchinapoley as well as of a fortified and advantageous Situation at Cuddalore

The Limits necessary to our present Address will not permit us to enter largely into the Arguments which swayed Mr Macpherson in forming this Opinion we must therefore beg your Indulgence till we may be enabled to do so by the ensuing Sea Conveyance when every Paper which can tend to elucidate our Proceeding will be transmitted to you. The following Propositions having been made by that Gentleman, they were adopted by the Board

1st That our Answer be written to the Governor and Council of Ceylon informing them that we have received Orders for fulfilling the Stipulations of the Preliminaries between his Britannick Majesty and

the States General, and that we are accordingly ready to deliver over Trinchinapoley and its Forts to a properly authorized Commissary and a Sufficient Garrison of Dutch Troops, the Moment the French are ready to fulfill their Engagements by Treaty in delivering over the Place to us as well as Cuddalore the only Place belonging to us in their Possession ”

2dly “That we write to the Marquis de Bussy informing him that the Correspondence between him and the Presidency of Fort St. George relative to the Execution of the Conditions of the late Treaty of Peace has been fully laid before us, that we have received the Orders of our Sovereign relative to the Preliminaries with the States General, and that we are ready to fulfil every stipulation of the late Treaty of Peace between Britain and France, as well as those of the Preliminary Articles between the English and the States General in the full and clear Meaning of the respective Treaties, in Proof of which we send him a Copy of our Answer to the Governor and Council of Ceylon relative to Trinchinopoley—that if after so fair and candid an Offer and our unreserved Determination to fulfil the stipulation of the late Peace with France any Observations should arise, neither the Observations nor the Effects they may produce can be attributed to our Government or Nation ”

3dly “That in Reply to the Letter from the new Council at Chinsura we should inform them that we are ready to carry into Effect the stipulations of the Preliminary Articles of Peace with the States General and to put the Dutch Council in Possession of Chinsura, and the Factories dependent on it on the Footing on which they formerly possessed that Establishment but as the 9th Article of the Said Preliminaries directs that the Restitutions and Eventions [*sic*] in Favor of the Dutch shall be made *at the Same Periods* with those between France and Great Britain, and as the M de Bussy has not yet agreed to deliver to us Trinchinapoley and Cuddalore, so we cannot agree to their taking formal and regular Possession of Chinsura till we hear from the M de Bussy to whom we shall write for a deferent Answer about the Restitutions stipulated in the Treaty with France That in the Mean Time they may take Possession of the Warehouses of the Dutch Company at Chinsura, and land their Goods and establish their own Regulations in every Point but in hoisting their Colours, or introducing any Troops or Military Stores, that they may be assured of every just Protection to themselves and their Trade, and that a Commissary only on the Part of this Governor should be left at Chins[ur]a to correspond with them and with us until Matters are adjusted with the M. de Bussy and the Administration of Ceylon for a formal Restoration to the Dutch Company of all their Establishments according to the 9th Article of the Preliminaries between Great Britain and the States General, that we shall send a Reply in the same Terms to the Governor General and Council at Butavia, by whose favorable Attention to our first Application to them to assist in relieving the Distresses which the Presidency of Fort St George Labor’d under from a Scarcity of Rice, we think ourselves indebted, and to whose Recommendation of their Ministers at Chinsura we

shall pay the utmost Attention.

4thly That before we write officially upon either of these Questions except the last which admits of no Delay, the Opinion of the Governor General should be requested if it should be agreeable to him to give it before his Return to the Presidency' and that Copies of all the Papers on this Subject Should be transmitted to him, and to Mr Stables, unless he should return in a few Days to Calcutta.

In conformity to the Terms of Mr Macpherson's 3d Proposition above stated the Council appointed by the Supreme Government of Butavia to conduct the Concerns of the Dutch Nation in Bengal have been put in Possession of their former Establishments at Chinsura Cossimbuzar Patna and Burnagore¹ The Office of Jemindar at Chinsura and the Jurisdiction of the Court of Justice in as far as relates to the Subjects of the States General and the Establishment of Chinsura have been abolished and the Troops stationed there have also been withdrawn.

The other Propositions moved by Mr Macpherson still remain in Suspence and we shall have the Pleasure of communicating to you our Resolutions upon them by the next Dispatch.

We have the Honor to be &c

Hon ble Sir

Fort William,
13th November 1784

Your most faithful Humble Servants.

LETTER DATED 13 NOVEMBER 1784

Accounts of the Nawab of Oudh—death of General Mathews—cession of Guntur—relations between the Marathas the Nizam and Tipu

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

Honble. Sirs

1 We had the Honor to address you on the 20th of August by the Danish Ship Copenhagen. A Duplicate of our Letter sent by that Conveyance and entrusted to the Care of Mr William Bratow attends you with this Dispatch.

2 We have since received by the Surprize which arrived on the 25th of August a separate Letter from your Honble Court under Date the 16th March with Copies of the several Papers mentioned in it.

3 We had referred the printed Report presented by your Honble Court to the House of Commons on the 16th of February last to our Accountant General and had directed him to compare it with the Accounts

which have been transmitted to Europe, and of which you were now in Possession when the Report was formed, and to acquaint us how far the Statements of Quick Stock on the 31st August 1783 and of the Probable Receipts and Disbursements of this Government for the Year 1783/4, transmitted by the Narbudda Packet, would have required Alteration in your Judgment, had these Documents been before You.

2dly What Reduction in the military and civil Expences of this Government for the present Year (independently of Remittances to the other Presidencies) would enable us to substantiate the Report of your Honble Court as far as this Government is concerned

3dly What has been the Augmentation of the civil and military Service, since the Year 1777, and what the proportional Encrease in the Expences of this Government, supposing that the general Expence of the present Year, could be reduced to the Scale of 1777

4thly What are the Probable Receipts of the Company, from the Investment that has been sent from hence, and of which your Honble Court had no Advices before the Arrival of the Narbudda

4 But as it appears from the Dispatches brought to us from Bussorah by the Neptune, that your Honble Court did on the 31st of May last, report to the Honble House of Commons in Obedience to their Order, such further Information as you had received, after having made up the Report, which was presented to the House on the 16th of February, and as we conceived that the Requisitions which had been made on the Subject, might if repeated on every similar Occasion, be fully answered by regular and official Documents, and more satisfactorily than by express and partial Statements, we have thought it unnecessary for our Accountant General to prosecute any further the Investigations referred to him by our former Order

5 We are well aware of the Necessity which exists under the present Situation of your Affairs, for extending our Retrenchments of Expences both in the civil and military Branches of your Service, as far as Prudence will allow You have already been informed of our Resolution to proceed in this Department in the Reform which was commenced in the Year 1782 in the Secret Department of Inspection, and we shall not fail to devote to this necessary Employment, as much of our Time as can be spared from our other unavoidable Occupations We shall from Time to Time communicate to you in a separate Address, the Progress we make in this Work

6 The other Points contained in your Letter of the 16th March, as well as your other Dispatches by the Surprize, and those lately received over Land will be replied to from the Public Department

7 We have the Pleasure to acquaint you that we received Information from the Honble the Governor General, by a Letter dated the 26th of August, that he had accomplished to his own Satisfaction, the Objects for which he visited Lucnow, and meant to leave that Place, on his

Return to Calcutta, on the 27th and that he would with the first *Leisure* transmit to us a Detail of the Arrangements which have been adopted for the Security and regular Discharge of the Vizier's Debt to the Company, which was reduced at the End of last Month to the Sum of Fyzabad 10 San Siccas Rupees 41 87 853.3.5

8 The Governor General adds that it is with Regret he informs us that the Prince Mirza Jewan Buckt will accompany him to Benares, that he is anxiously desirous of seeing him return to his Father but that his Influence has been too feeble to produce that Effect he does not however yet despair of some Termination of the Negotiation for his Return to Delhy which is still open, without being obliged to wait long at Benares for the Event

9 On the 13th of August the Governor General acquainted us that he had communicated to the Nobob Vizier the Method proposed by our Accountant-General for settling the Amount to be brought to his Excellency's Credit on Account of the Horses withdrawn from the temporary Brigade and sent on Service with the late Bombay Detachment and had directed the Accountant at Lucnow to conform to it. He at the same Time informed us, that he felt a Reluctance in proposing to the Vizier to admit the Charge of the two Russalahs of Cavalry lately returned from the West of India in his Accounts as the late Resident at his Excellency's Court had neglected to give him any Intimation of our Desire of keeping them up and had neither asked nor obtained his Approbation of the Measure

10 Having called on Mr Bristow to account for the Cause of this seeming Neglect of his Duty he has acquainted us that no Orders to that Effect had ever been communicated to him

11 The Governor General having transmitted to us the Nobob Vizier's Objections to an Account delivered in by Mr Bristow of the Expenditure of the Amount of Rs. 14 01,508. 3 2. in Part of his Collections of which Sum he admits only Rs. 8 70 619 1 8 and his Excellency having called upon us for Assistance in recovering for him the Balance which he thus states to be due to him we thought proper to require Mr Bristow's Reply to the Charge preferred against him and he has requested to be allowed a short Delay to enable him to examine and arrange the Papers relative to this Subject We at the same Time directed our Secretary to call on him for his Answer to the Charges contained in the Governor General's Letter of the 11th June and 13th August which he has accordingly delivered in and in which he sets his Defence with regard to his Mode of calculating Batta on the Orders of Government transmitted to him in the Year 1776 We have furnished the Governor General with a Copy of Mr Bristow's Letter on this Subject and shall hereafter communicate to you such Remarks as he may make on it as well as our final Determination on his Excellency's Claims

12. Since the Arrival of the Governor General at Benares he has furnished us with a Detail of his Transactions at Lucnow which will be

found on our Consultation of the 8th October From this Account it appears that the Claim of the Company on the Nabob Vizier to the End of August 1786 will amount to Rs 1,05,00,000 including the present Balance for the entire Liquidation of which, the Nabob Vizier has made a Provision by monthly Instalments vizt

In ready Money and Bills		19,00,000
To be paid to the end of		
	Cour Sept & Oct	5,00,000
October & Novr	Cautic	5,00,000
Novr & Dec	Aughon	5,00,000
Dec & Janry	Poos	20,00,000
Janry & Febry	Maug	3,25,000
Febry & March	Phaugon	3,25,000
March & April	Cheynt	3,25,000
April & May	Bysaack	3,25,000
May & June	Jeyt	13,25,000
July	Assar	3,25,000
July & August	Sawan	3,25,000
August & Septr	Bhadoon	18,25,000

Fyzabad 16 Sun Sa Rs 1,05,00,000

13 Of this Amount the Sum of Rs 27,93,308 2 7 appears by the Accounts transmitted by Mr Wombwell, to have been liquidated at the End of Sept last

14 The Governor General has proposed, that the Detachment stationed in the Vizier's Dominions under the Command of Sir John Cumming shall be withdrawn as soon as an adequate Force shall be stationed for the Protection of our Frontier, and has accordingly struck the Expence of that Corps out of his Estimate from the 1st of January 1785 His Arguments for this Measure are that it may lead to a Saving in our own Expences, by enabling us to make a further Reduction of the Army, and that the Company can gain nothing by it's being continued at the Nabob's Charge, since he has not the Means of defraying it

15 We are also informed that considerable Savings have been made in the personal as well as the Public Expences of the Nabob Vizier The Begums and the Nabob Salar Jung, whose Jaghires have been restored in Conformity to the Orders of your Honble Court, of the 14th of February 1783, have made a voluntary Cession of a large Part of their respective Shares, and Saudit Ally has been required to submit to a Tax of one Lac of his Stipend in Order to preclude the Cause of Offence which might have been taken at his being partially exempted The Ministers also have contributed to the Relief of their Masters by the Resignation of 3/4ths of their Commission of Office A Settlement of his Excellency's Dominions has also been concluded by the Minister for five Years on the following encreasing Jumma.

Jumma	1192	2 20 65 639 13 6
	1193	2 44,50,504.
	1194	2 66 05,326 6.3
	1195	2 87 11,326 6.3.
	1196	3 06,93 035 10 9

16 In a subsequent Letter from the Governor General under Date the 1st of October he states to us the Hardship which the Vizier sustains from the Army Subsidy being kept up at its original Rate altho the Number of Troops employed by us in Defence of his Dominions has been greatly reduced and proposes as the easiest and most equitable Method of reconciling our present Arrangements to strict Justice that the Regiment stationed at Lucnow should be included under the Troops for which the original Subsidy was settled that the Vizier should be allowed Credit for the Amount of the Subsidy with which he has been separately charged for that Regiment from the Time of the Reduction of our military Establishment, and that to entitle us to receive this separate Subsidy in future an additional Regiment should be sent to Cawnpore We have not yet come to any Resolution on this Subject, nor on the Governor General's Letter of the 20th Sept both of which will be taken into Consideration at a subsequent Meeting

17 The Governor General arrived at the Presidency on the 4th and resumed his Seat at this Board on the 11th Instant.

18 In our last Address we had the Honor to inform you that Colonel Pearse had cantoned his Detachment at Siccacole on Account of the setting in of the Rains. He intended to march towards these Provinces about the 1st of this Month and will probably reach Midnapour some Time in the Month of January Since his arrival at Siccacole he has drawn on us for Sa. Rs. 4,51 160 on Account of the Arrears due to the Detachment and his Bills have been accepted and allowed in Preference at the Treasury We are informed by the Colonel, that the Amount for which he has already drawn on us will suffice to bring the Detachment to Midnapour

19 Our Address of the 20th of August last would make you fully acquainted with our Sentiments of the Letter which we had received from your Right Honble President and Select Committee of Fort St. George under Date the 31st July in Reply to ours of the 8th of June the safe Arrival of which at Fort St. George having rendered the Commission to which we had appointed Mr Dighton on the 3d August unnecessary that Gentleman was accordingly informed that his Deputation was at an End and directed to furnish us with an Account of the Expenses which he had incurred in the Execution of the Trust reposed in him.

20 On the 31st of the same Month we received a Letter from your Right Honble. President and Select Committee under Date the 11th in Reply to that which we had written to them on the 20th of May in which they by Implication retort upon us the Charge of reviving Differences with them which they hoped had been buried in Oblivion. The Subject is fully before you and we shall cheerfully submit to your Judgment

21. By a Letter from Fort St George of the 6th Ultro we have been informed that the Forts of Amboor and Santgur were delivered over to us by Tippoo Sultan on the 1st and 2nd of the same Month, and that they had issued Orders to deliver up Dindigul to his Officers

22 The last Letter which we have received from your Right Honble President and Select Committee of Fort St. George is dated the 10th of Sept It was written in Reply to one which we had addressed to them on the 13th July requesting to be furnished annually with Estimates of their Receipts and Disbursements and other Statements necessary to give us a complete Idea of their Situation, and contained their Reasons for not having been able to transmit these Statements when we applied for them many Months ago It also conveyed to us Copies of two Minutes recorded by their Right Honble President on the Subject of the military Establishment, which it would be necessary to keep up on the Coast in Time of Peace, and a Proposal for an Encrease of their Establishment by a proportionate Reduction of our's A similar Proposition on the Part of your President and Select Committee of Bombay was communicated to us by their Letter of the 28th January recorded on our Proceedings of the 2nd of March, and the Sentiments expressed in the Governor General's Letter on this Subject of the 10th of March which is already before you, and which coincide entirely with our own, will apply equally to the present Occasion By a corrected Statement which we have received from your President and Select Committee of Fort St George of the Company's Affairs under their Presidency, calculated to commence at the End of three Years after a General Peace, it appears that after deducting all Expences there will remain a Balance for the Investment for the Liquidation of Public Debts, and for Interest to the Nabob's Creditors of Star Pags 12,09,037

23 A very strong Report having prevailed in this Place, that General Matthews and the other Officers who were made Prisoners with him at Biddenore, had been cut off by Poison, by the Order of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan, your President and Select Committee of Fort St George thought it necessary to call upon Colonel Braithwaite to give an Account of such Circumstances as were within his knowledge relative to the Fate of General Matthews His Narrative is recorded on our Proceedings of the 1st Instant and tends to create a Belief that the General fell a Sacrifice, not to the Effects of Poison, but to the Violence of his own Disposition, and to his groundless Apprehensions of an Intention on the Part of Tippoo to take him off With regard to the other Officers of his Army, Colonel Braithwaite says that it is not in his Power to account "for their Death, the Time and many Circumstances considered, without concurring in the general Belief of thinking they died by Violence of some kind, altho' he is convinced in his own Mind that neither Poison or any other Means of Death was publicly administered to any one."

24 Since the Date of our last Advices, we have received two Letters from your President and Select Committee of Bombay of the 12th

August and 1st September The former of these Letters enclosed to us the Replies of General Macleod and of Captains Carpenter and Torriano to some Charges which had been preferred against them by Tippoo Sultan for delivering over Cannanore to the Rannee without the Presence of an Officer on the Part of Tippoo and for destroying some Forts in the Place after the Peace, and for Delays in delivering over the Forts of Carwar and Onore &c. These Charges appear to us to be fully refuted and your President and Select Committee inform us, that they propose "to give Tippoo every further Satisfaction short of the Idea suggested in Lord Macartney's Correspondence with him of again possessing ourselves of Cananore a Measure which (they add) could not be effected but by Force of Arms and which they never should agree to merely for the Ceremony of redelivering it to the Biby in Presence of a single Person on the Part of the Nabob

Your President and Select Committee at the same Time state to us in strong Terms their urgent Distress for Money and promise to furnish us with Estimates of their real Situation as soon as they can be prepared They had received the Bills forwarded to them by the Governor General from Lucnow for five Lacs of Rupees, which would in some Measure alleviate their Distresses. On the 1st of September they acquaint us that every Thing remained quiet on the Coast except some Disputes of no great Moment respecting the Property of the Coorgoo Rajah and others secreted by Housse in which the Gentlemen at Tellicherry have given the Nabob every Satisfaction in their Power

25 Our last Advices from the Resident at the Coast of the Nabob Nizam Ally Khan have been very full. They generally tend to impress us with the Idea, that a speedy Rupture will take place between His Highness the Nizam and the Nabob Tippoo Sultan whose Forces now hang over the southern Possessions of His Highness in Readiness to seize the first favorable Opportunity of attacking them and the Nabob Mahabut Jung, the present Possessor of Adoni and Raychore as well as the Nabob of Canoul are said to have already submitted by Letter to Tippoo.

26 Mr Johnson has not yet brought his Negotiation for the Cession of the Guntoor Circar to a Conclusion He has made two Proposals to the Nizam on this Subject to which he has as yet received no Answer They are either that he should surrender the District agreeably to Treaty or that he should withhold it in Liquidation of all Accounts past and future of the stipulated annual Payments to be made him.

27 We are much pleased to see this Negotiation likely to remain in a State of Suspence because the Acquiescence of the Nabob to our Demands of Possession would involve us in great Perplexity by the Obligation which it would impose upon us of discharging the Arrears of his Peshcush for which we have no Means nor is it certain that the Possession of the Circar of Guntoor would yield any substantial Advantage to counterbalance the Necessity of adding to the Disburden of your military Strength

for it's Defence, and by too near an Approach to the apparent Scene of Tippoo's actual Operations, tend to draw us into Hostilities with him. Our Wish is that the Negotiation may terminate, whenever it shall terminate, in a clear Accommodation of all retrospective Demands on both Sides by a Cession of our Right to the Property of the Circar opposed to an Acquittal of the Arrears of the same Peshcush, and such is the Effect of the present Suspence, while it leaves the Option open when we wish it to remain open for your future and special Decision.

28 In Mr Johnson's Letter of the 7th of October he suggests to us the Probability of the Nazim's wishing to surrender the Guntoor to us should Tippoo Sultan intend to seize it, and acquaints us that as he cannot receive our Orders in Time to guide him, if such an Event should take Place, he will give a conditional Answer to the Nazim, by informing him that on the Arrival of Agents who may be sent from Madras, he will receive Charge of the District, provided that his Officers may then be free to deliver it to him. In a subsequent Letter however he acquaints us, that from Tippoo's slow and cautious Mode of proceeding, it is supposed that he means rather to try what he can do by Threats and Alarms than by decided Efforts from which he cannot afterwards recede, and that therefore his Attempt upon the Guntoor may yet be distant.

29 The Nabob Nizam Ally Khan has expressed his Wish to Mr Johnson to have fresh and distinct Assurances of our Readiness to comply with the 6th Article of the Treaty of 1768 which stipulates the Company's Assistance to be afforded him when he may require it, and the Situation of their Affairs will admit of it, but Mr Johnson thinks that if such Assurance is obtained, he will not immediately require the Effect to follow Promise, nor at all until the last Extremity of Distress. He also adduces several Arguments to evince the Policy of our taking Part with the Nazim immediately, as we must sooner, or later in all Probability have to contend with Tippoo, when his Resources may be increased with the Provinces of Adoni, Raychore, Canoul and Guntoor, when he will entirely intercept the Communication of the Carnatic with the northern Circars, and with Palnaud, and when we shall have the whole Expence to bear ourselves, and to a Certainty without the Nazim's Aid if our's is now refused him.

30 We have not yet replied to this Proposition, but not chusing to leave any Obscurity or Doubt on a Matter of such immediate Relation to the Peace of your Possessions, we venture most confidently to assure You, both that we shall not pay any Regard to a supposed State of Danger impending on our Ally, but not warranted by any Declaration of it from himself, nor can we foresee any possible Necessity likely to force us to take Part in his Contest with Tippoo during the Course of the present Year.

31 Both Tippoo Sultan and the Marattas have required from Nazim Ally Khan the Dismission of Mr. Johnson from his Highness's

Court. The Reason assigned by Mr Johnson for his Highness's having refused to comply with the Demand on the Part of the Marattas, is because his Stay at Hydrabad probably keeps Tippoo in Awe, by impressing him with an Idea that we shall take Part against him. A great Coolness is said to have lately taken Place between the Court of Hydrabad and Nana Furnavese occasioned by the latter having detected some Letters from the Nazim tending to lay the Foundation of an Intercourse with his Opponents in the Maratta State and by Mr Johnson's last Letter we are informed that some Openings had been afforded him of reverting to the main Objects of his Instructions, vizt. to amend the Connection between the Nizam and English by a more intimate and real Junction of interests than now exists by a glaring Detection of Nana's Duplicitv and Insincerity to his Highness and Tippoo's hostile Appearances. As Mr Johnson promises to lay before us the Grounds of this Negotiation very shortly we have thought it expedient to await the Receipt of his Advice on this Subject, before we furnish him with any Instructions on the Subject of his Communications.

32. Some Overtures were made by Nana to Mr Johnson thro his Agent Napelcund² which were rejected on a Certainty of their being insincere and intended to create a Jealousy between the Company and Madajee Sindia.

33. Overtures of Alliance were also made to him by Mahabut Jung the Son and Successor of the Nabob Bisalut Jung which were likewise rejected as incompatible with our Engagements with the Soubah which prohibit Correspondence with any of his Subjects in open or secret Rebellion. Mr Johnson thinks it possible that this Proposal was seditious and calculated to try whether he was disposed or not to act secretly against the Nazim's Government

34. Major General Sir John Burgoyne having acquainted us that he was in Want of 150 Horses to complete his Regiment of Cavalry and that he would undertake to furnish them at the Rate of 120 Pagodas each Horse we deemed his Proposal reasonable and as we have a very great Opinion of the Services which may be rendered by a Regiment of well disciplined European Cavalry in this Country we authorized him to draw on us for the Amount which might be necessary on this Account and made it our Request to your President and Select Committee of Fort St George that they would not draft the Horses from his Corps for any Purpose whatever

35. Major General Burgoyne has also addressed us on the Supposition that our Powers were enlarged by the late Dispatches from Europe and has requested our Interference to procure his being either tried by a Court Martial or released from his Arrest

36. In Reply to this Letter we have informed him that our Powers are not sufficiently extensive to ensure him the Redress which he desires and that a simple Recommendation without Authority to enforce it would probably do more Injury than Service to his Cause

The State of our Treasury this Day is as follows.

Ready Money			
General Treasury	1,51,669 14	4	
Khalsah	35,755 -	7	
			1,87,424 14 11
Bills Receivable			
General Treasury			
Sa Rs	10,50,000 - -	12,18,000.	
Khalsah	1,27,063 8 9	1,47,393 11 5	
			13,65,393 11 5
Mint			
General Treasury	- - -		
Khalsah	- - -		
Unsorted Treasure			
	Valued at 10 Pr Cent better than Current Rupees		
	Current Rupees		15,52,818 10 4
Balance Account Deposits	10,15,375 1 -		
Do Account General to the Mayors Court	1,20,161 13 9		
Do of the old bonded Debt on) which the Interest has) ceased by public Adver-) tizement	45,117 - 8		
New bonded Debt at 8 per Cent	1,66,66,207 12 11		
4 per Cent Remittance Loan	16,96,680 - -		
Annuities			
			1,95,43,541 12 4

Fort William,
13th Novr 1784
[Per *Surprize*]

We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/John Macpherson/John Stables

LETTER DATED 8 DECEMBER 1784

[Foreign Department]

*Maintenance of prisoners of war and other inhabitants of French settle-
ments—restoration of Dutch and French possessions—duties on Danish trade*

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We have the Honor to transmit to you by the *Surprize* a Triplicate

of our Address from this Department on the 16th March by your Ship Earl of Oxford and a Duplicate of that dated the 13th Ultimo which was sent to Bombay that it might be dispatched to you by the way of Bussorah. The Packet by the Surprise takes also a broken Sett of our Proceedings and their Index beginning with those of the 23d of March and ending with those of the 23d of November

French & Dutch

2 In our Letter by the Earl of Oxford we assured your Honourable Court that we should pay the strictest Attention to your Commands of the 24th September in transmitting to you by an early Conveyance a compleat & exact Statement of the sums which have been advanced by us since the Beginning of the war for the Subsistence and Maintenance of the French Prisoners in Bengal together with the necessary Receipts, attested Accounts, and other authentic Titles relative thereto

3 Orders were accordingly given to the Accountant General to carry your Directions into complete Effect with the Assistance of the Commissary at Chandernagore but as we had resolved on the 14th August 1783 on Principles of Humanity which we are sure you cannot disapprove that the Subsistence then enjoyed by the French within these Provinces should be continued until they should be subsisted by their own Nation or returned to the Commander in Chief of the French Forces in India neither of which has yet generally taken place Your Bounty to many of the French yet continues, and the Accounts therefore cannot be yet perfected to that State in which you have ordered & desire that they should be transmitted to you but we hope that the Means which we have lately resolved on to obtain a compleat Accomplishment of the Definitive Treaty with France in as far as the same has Relation to the East Indies will in their Consequences enable us to relieve you very soon from the Charge which is at present incurred for the Subsistence of the French at Chandernagore without Injury to the Assurances that we made to them in August 1783, and empower us also to transmit to you in the Course of this Season the Accounts & Vouchers that you have desired.

4 We have directed the Commissary to provide Passages at the Company's Expence and at the lowest Rate at which he can procure them for such of the soldiers and Sailors as remain at Chandernagore and may be willing to repair to Fort St George and to inform such as may not chuse to quit Bengal that their Subsistence will be immediately stopped. We have also abolished the Office of Commissary at Chandernagore and directed that the allowances paid to the French Families that are settled there should be paid in future by the Collector of Hooghly and that the Revenues of Chandernagore should be paid into the Hands of Mons De Bretel an old and respectable Inhabitant of that Place who acts also in the Capacity of *Munadar*

5 We beg leave to refer you to the Proceedings noted in the *Memoirs*

for an Abstract State of the Amount disbursed by the Commissary at Chandernagore from the Institution of his Office on the 7th Consultation of July 1778 to the 30 of April 1783 and an Account of the 20th May Proper Receipt and Disbursements of the Collector of Chandernagore from the same Period to the 30 April 1784 The whole Amount disbursed up to this Time will appear by the Statement of Dead Stock to be transmitted to you by the Packet under Dispatch

6 We have not until lately received any Reply from the Marquis De Bussy to the Representations made to him in December and mentioned in our Advices by the Earl of Oxford, in respect to the Conduct of Monsr Le Roche¹ It appears on our Proceedings of the 1st Ulto and will, in Addition to the immediate Subject of it, be found to contain a Testimony no less liberal on the Part of His Excellency than satisfactory to us of the Treatment shewn to the Prisoners of his Nations in Bengal

7 Our Advices of November conveyed to you a short Account of our Proceedings on an application made to us by the Governor General and Council of Batavia in Virtue of the Preliminary Treaty between His Britannish [sic] Majesty and their High Mightinesses the States General, to deliver over the Possessions captured from the Dutch in these Provinces to a Chief and Council at Chinsura whom they had appointed to receive Charge of them, and we have had the Honor also to inform you of an Appeal which we have received from the Governor and Council of Columbo to interpose our Authority for procuring the Restoration of such of the Dutch Possessions on the Coromandel Coast as are stipulated in the same Treaty to be given up, the Appeal desiring also that Trincomale should be delivered over to the Agents of Columbo immediately after the English had been put in Possession of it by the French, in Conformity to the Terms of an Agreement that had been executed between the Courts of London and Versailles

8 The Letters from Batavia and Columbo on this Subject, our Sub Secretary's Report of the actual State of the Negotiation Consultation 8th October for the Cession of the Places stipulated to be given up by the Treaty with France in as far as regarded Trincomale, which seemed to be the only obstacle to the final Execution of that Treaty, the Minute delivered by Mr Macpherson, who in Consequence of the Indisposition of Mr Wheler, and the Absence of Mr Stables for the Benefit of his Health, was left to take the Lead in proposing such Measures as were to be adopted on the Applications before the Board The Boards Resolution to comply with those Applications immediately in as far as respected Chinsurah except that the Colours of the Dutch Nation were not to be hoisted at that Place until the Marquis de Bussy should have agreed to the Restitution of Trincomale and Cuddalore, and the Reference made to the Governor General for his Advice & Opinion on the Claims of Government of Columbo appear at large on our Proceedings of the 8 of October, with our further Resolutions to discontinue from that Day the Allowances that had been granted to the Dutch Prisoners

9 You will observe by our Proceedings of the 1st of last Month that the keys of the Factory and Public Warehouses at Chinsura had been given up by Mr Commissary Purling agreeably to our Orders that the Jurisdiction of the Court at that Place had as far as it related to the Subjects of the States General and to the Establishment there been abolished and that a Resolution was passed that the Court House and the Collections of Chinsura and Barnagore should be delivered over to the Charge of the Dutch Chief and Council. We beg Leave to refer you to our Proceedings on the same Day, in which a Letter is recorded from the Chief and Council of Chinsura highly expressive of their Acknowledgements for the Decisions that we had passed and assuring us that they allowed full Weight to the Reasons that operated with us against a more perfect Compliance for the present with the Applications received from Batavia. In consequence of a Desire communicated by the Dutch in the same Letter and the Reasonableness of it Orders were given to the Deputy Commissaries at Cossimbuzar and Patna to deliver over the Dutch Factories at those Places to such Persons as should be appointed by the Council of Chinsura to receive Charge of them.

10 A Representation having been laid before us of some Hinderance that had been suffered in loading the Dutch Company's Ship *Stroaler* and submitting to us at the same Time that the Dutch Company's Affairs should be carried on as formerly and without Infriction of its ancient Privileges. We directed that when any Dutch Ships might arrive in future the Manner of Collecting the Customs which was practised before the Commencement of the late War should be adhered to without Innovation but we informed the Gentlemen at Chinsura in respect to the Cargo of the Ship *Stroaler* that as the Dutch were not in Possession of that Place at the Time of the *Stroaler's* Arrival we had furnished the Commissioners of Customs with separate Instructions relative to the Duties that were to be collected from her and had not Doubt of their strict Adherence to the obvious Meaning of them. We are apprehensive however that our Correspondence is not yet finished with the Dutch on the Subject of Duties on their Trade.

11 After the Close of the Dispatches forwarded to you in the Course of last Month by the Way of Bombay and Bussora a Minute was delivered by the Governor General on the Reference made to him of the Claims of the Government of Colombo and a Copy of it was transmitted to the Secretary of your Honble Court by an after Dispatch with an Intimation of the Board entire Assent to the Propositions which it contained. Another Copy is transmitted by Number in this Packet with Transcript of our Letter to His Excellency the Marquis De Bussy to the Governor General and Council of Batavia the Council and Council of Colombo and I such Part of us that we have written to your Right Honble President and Select Committee of Fort St George as have any Relation to the Subject. The only Difference between the Governor General's Propositions and those which we have made to the Marquis De Bussy is in

the 2nd not very material to the Object of it The following are the Propositions as they now stand

1stly That in Conformity to the Instructions which the Marquis De Bussy received by French Frigate Piccieuse from the Mareshal De Castus and which he has been pleased to state to the Presidency of Fort St George, he do immediately deliver up the Fort of Trincomalay and its Dependencies to the Representatives of the Dutch Government of Columbo

2ndly That whatever Commissaries or Agents he may be pleased to appoint to deliver over Trincomale to the Dutch may be likewise considered as executing that Office or [on] the Part of the British Nation, and we have declared them to be fully authorized for that Purpose

3rdly That he deliver over the Fort, Town, and Districts of Cuddalore to such Agents as the Right Hon'ble the President and Select Committee at Fort St George shall depute to receive the same and that he receive from them their formal Cession of Pondichery

12 The Minutes of the Governor General and Mr Macpherson upon this important Subject are so fully explanatory of the Ground which determined us in proposing that we have proposed to the Marquis De Bussy that we think any further Elucidation of them unnecessary, and they appear to us so convincing that we do not hesitate to assure ourselves of your entire Approval of our Conduct If it be urged however that we ought to have employed the Agency of your Servants at Fort St George to carry the Treaty into Execution, we answer that so many Scruples and Delays were permitted to operate in their late Negotiations with the Marquis De Bussy that we could not venture to hazard even a possible Repetition of them on so essential a Service

13 Our Propositions to the Marquis De Bussy are so clear that no Questions ought to arise upon the Intent of any Part of them, and after so explicit a Declaration as we have given him of our Sentiments, and so incontestible a Demonstration as we have afforded of our Readiness to carry the Treaty with France into immediate Execution, no Blame can be henceforward attributed to the English for any Delay that may be admitted in this great and salutary Work We have done all that we could do, the Rest depend upon the Marquis De Bussy and on him only as he is in effectual Possession of every Place that is to be ceded

14 Some Differences having arisen between the Nabob Walau Jah and Lord Macartney in respect to the manner of giving Effect to the 14th Article of the Treaty with France, which stipulates that His Britannic Majesty shall procure for an additional Dependency to Pondichery the two Districts of Valanour and Bahour the Governor General has addressed a Letter to His Highness acquainting him with our late Resolutions in respect to the Treaty at large, and earnestly requesting that His Highness will submit to the Occasion, and forward our Arrangement without Difficulty, and if it should be necessary for that Purpose, even without consideration of his Rights which will not be injured by a temporary Suspension of the Exercise of them since we declare, and are ready to

acknowledge in the most formal Manner that such an Instance of His Highness's Acquiescence in our Request is not to operate to their Prejudice but that his Claims are just, and admitted by this Government to their fullest Extent

15 We have now closed the most Important Subjects that required our Communication of them to your Honble Court under the Head which we have assigned to the first Part of our Address from the Foreign Department The Rest are comparatively trivial but they are yet deserving of your Attention

10 It gives us much Satisfaction to Inform you that in consequence of an application which we made to the Governor General and Council of Batavia on the 15th December 1783 to allow us a Provision of Rice equal to their Means for the Supply of the Carnatic since our own Apprehensions at that Time of Scarcity within these Provinces and the Famine that actually existed beyond them had obliged us to lay a total Embargo on the Exportation of it from this Country they cheerfully and immediately complied with it and a considerable Supply of Rice not less than near 8000 Bags was embarked on your ship Vansittart which was destined to Batavia for the Conveyance of it and was landed at Fort St George We have made our Acknowledgements to the Governor General and Council of Batavia for the favorable Attention which they have been pleased to show to our Request and agreed to discharge the Amount due for the Grain partly in Money and partly in Salt Petre agreeable to their Desire on being informed by the Chief and Council at Chinsura of the State of the Account between us

17 We had the Honor to acquaint you in our Advice by the Earl of Oxford that in Virtue of Powers left by Mr Ross the late Governor of Chinsura a Suit in Equity had been commenced in the Supreme Court against Mr Halley in the name of Mr Ross for the Recovery of Advances to the Amount of Rs. 150 000 received by Mr Halley from Mr Ross in the Name of Colbinaut Muckerjee and remaining unaccounted for in Mr Halley's Hand being nearly the sum for which a Suit was before commenced by the Company against that Gentleman and terminated without Success You were also informed that Mr Ross had by a special Assignment under Date the 27th December 1782 assigned this Sum to the Company

18 We have now the Pleasure to acquaint you that a Decree was given on the 5th of April last against Mr Halley for the Principal Amount of the Advances received by him from Mr Ross and Interest thereon at 10 1 Cent p Annum amounting in the whole to Rs. 2 10 971 10 7 Mr Halley's Attorneys were called up on by our Directions to pay the Amount of the Decree in Cash they refused that in lieu thereof we should accept the Securities that had been lodged by Mr Halley and receive the Company's Bond which were a Principal Part of them at last stating the Circumstances which in

their Opinion entitled Mr Halsey to the Admission of the full value of the Bond, they also represented that, if the Bond were sold, the Transaction must pass through the Hand of the Sheriff, by which an additional Expence would accrue to Mr Halsey, and they therefore requested that if we adhered to our Resolution to receive ready Money we would employ the Trustees to convert the Bond into Cash, the Attornies promising to indemnify the Trustees from the Consequences at the same Time that they received from Mr Halsey the Right of instituting any Claim which he might have on the Company, on Account of the Discount in their Bond, a Precaution which they would be equally obliged to take if the Property were sold by the Sheriff.

19. We saw no sufficient Reason for departing from the ordinary Mode of Sale as requested by Mr Halsey's Attornies, and therefore directed the Company's Attorney to take the necessary Measures for executing the Decree of the Supreme Court

He did so and has lately addressed a Letter to our Secretary with statement of the Amount between the Company & Mr Halsey as it now stands by which it appears that there is a Balance due from that Gentleman of Crs 97,138 10 9 Copies of the Letter from the Company's Attorney of the Account enclosed in it and of the Decree of the Supreme Court against Mr. Halsey the latter attested by the Register of the Court are Transmitted to you Nos in this Dispatch

Mr Charles White a Lieutenant in his Majestys Navy who proceeds to England in the Surprize and Mr George Templer, one of your Covenanted Servant on this Establishment who will go shortly in a Danish Ship have examined the Copy of the Decree herewith sent and put their Names to it The Companys attorney informs us that he has delivered other Copies of it to these Gentlemen respectively that they may be enabled to swere if called upon that the Copies in their Possession have not been altered since they examined them

Mr Ross having before the Commencement of the Suit executed an assignment to Mr Purling in trust for the Company of the Amount of the Debt since recovered in it the Company's Attorney has obtained an assignment with the necessary Power of attorney in Triplicate from Mr Purling to the Hon'ble Company, their Successors, Agents & Assigns which he acquaint us has been received by the Company's Senior Advocate & approved by the Advocate General empowering them to sue Mr Halsey for the Balance due on the Courts Decree Copies of this Assignment & of the Power of Attorney attend you Nos in the Packet

20 The President of the late Court of Justice at Chinsura represented to us on the 27th January last that two Persons had come into that Settlement pretending to be authorized by some Process from the Sheriff of Calcutta to be executed in the House of Mynheer Hansmichel a settled Dutch Inhabitant of Chinsurah that they went into his House during his Absence, and sealed up several

Consn 20th
April

Consultation
13th May

Consn 3d Febr'y

of the Goods and Effects found in it and that an application made by Mynheer Hansmichel to the President of the Court he had ordered before him the Persons complained against one of whom he afterwards heard was a Sheriff's Officer belonging to Calcutta and had gone off. That the other Mr James Huggins an Inhabitant of Calcutta appeared before Mr Richardson acknowledged the Fact as stated and said that he was authorized to do what he had done by the process of the Supreme Court. Some Conversation ensued between the President of the Court of Chinsurah and Mr Huggins in which the latter declared himself warranted in what he did and dared the President at his Peril to take any Cognizance of him or [so] it. Mr Huggins was required to show nader what Authority he pretended to act to which he replied that he had not any in his Possession but believe[d] that the Moo who had gone to Calcutta had proper Authority. The President ordered Mr Huggins into Confinement for thus attempting as the Case is stated to us to violate the Rights of the Jurisdiction we had thought good to establish and thus personally settling at Desiance the Authority with which we had invested him.

21 After these Proceedings the President of the Court at Chinsurah was served with a Writ of Habeas Corpus from the Supreme Court he requested our Instructions how to act and that we would direct your Counsel and Attorney to undertake his Defence if we should be of Opinion that he ought to make one.

22 We resolved that a Copy of Mr Richardson's Representation should be sent to the Company's Attorney with Orders to him to make a Return of the Writ with Mr Richardson's Assistance and to defend the Suit under his Instructions but on his Account and at his Cost unless on receiving the Report of the Proceedings in the Cause and the Issue of it we should deem him entitled to be indemnified from the Charge.

23 The Return was made but the Court deemed it insufficient to Consultation hold Mr Huggins longer in Confinement and ordered 15th April him to be discharged.

24 Mr Huggins afterwards commenced his Action to recover Damages from Mr Richardson for the Imprisonment and it was tried. The Judgement of the Court was in Substance as follows. That it had not been established on Proof by Mr Richardson that an actual Breach of the Peace (which it was insisted had been committed by Mr Huggins and the Sheriff's Officers who had seized the Effects in Mynheer Hansmichel's House) had been really committed and that Mr Richardson was not protected by certain Acts of the 7th of James and 21st of George the 3rd which had been argued in his Defence but that as it appeared that Mr Richardson had acted (tho' not legally) to the best of his Judgement and conformably to the Advice of the Dutch Magistrate appointed to advise him in Matter of Fact the Court were of Opinion that Mr Huggins was entitled to a small sum to prevent his being out of pocket and therefore gave a Judgement for 200 Rs. and Costs.

25 Upon the Grounds of the Opinion delivered by the Court of

Mr Richardson's Conduct, and as we conceived that he had not led the Company unwarrantably into the Defence of the Suit instituted against him by Mr Huggins we agreed that the Amount of the Courts Judgement and of the Costs of Suit should be defrayed by the Company

26 A Letter is recorded on our Proceedings of the 13th May from the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope to the Governor General bearing Date the 1st November 1783 in which he advises that four Moormen and a Woman, who had been among the sufferers in your Ship Grosvenor were sent to Bengal in the Danish Ship Copenhagen, and that there was a vague Report at the Cape that some Europeans were living among the Caffrees, in consequence of which he had issued Orders into the interior Parts of the Country for an Enquiry to be made concerning them, and if the Report was established a Party would be sent to release such Persons as might be found

27 We wished to make some Enquiries of the Lascars who had come in the Copenhagen, but on their Arrival here they had gone different Ways, and could not afterward be found

28 Some Circumstances relative to the loss of the Grosenor and the Fate of the Passengers and Crew are related to us in a Letter from our late Secretary Mr Auriol² to which we beg Leave to refer you for them
 Consultation 3rd August It affords us a mere Ray of Hope that more of the sufferers than have hitherto appeared may be yet surviving

29 Mr Auriol informs us that the Ring which we had intrusted to his Care for the Governor of the Cape, as some Token of the Sense we entertained of his humane and liberal Conduct on the Wreck of the Ship Grosvenor, had been delivered, and that Baron Plattenbergh had manifested extreme Satisfaction at the Receipt of such an Acknowledgement and declared before he opened the Case in which the Ring was that the Manner of granting it which was highly flattering to him would ever leave a suitable Impression on his Mind

Danes

30 Our Correspondence with Mr Bie the Danish Chief of Fredricksnagore in respect to the Duties to be delivered on the Trade of the Danes did not cease with the Instance that produced it as advised in our

Consultation[s] 23rd March, 13th May, 22 June Letter by the Earl of Oxford Various Complaints were made and appear with our Answer to them in the Proceedings noted in the Margin and we received a Letter

from the Government of Tranquebar³ desiring us to grant Mr Bie Redress At length in the Hope of bringing the Questions that had arisen between us to an Issue, we desired the Governor of Fredricksnagore to state to us the several Claims which he had to urge in respect to the Duties on the Trade of the Danish Company as well as on that carried on by Individuals, separating the one from the other that we might take the same into Consideration, and as he had

Consultation 22d June

frequently alluded in his Correspondence with us to a Phurmaun possessed by the Dances and grounded Rights upon it we requested him to furnish us with a Copy of it.

31 Mr Bio transmitted to us in Consequence of our Desire a Statement of his Claims but observed that since His Majesty the King of Denmark had been graciously pleased to take the Danish Company's Territorial Possessions in the East Indies into his own Royal Hand and to lay the East India Trade (China excepted) open to all his Subjects the Privileges obtained in this Country and which were formerly restricted to a certain Body of Danish Subjects, are now diffused to them generally and consequently no Distinction can be made between the Trade of the Danish Company and that of Individuals.

32. This Question might have been settled in a great Measure by a Reference to the Danish Phurmaun but on our Request to be furnished with a Copy of it Mr Bio hoped that we would excuse him for not complying with it as he was sensible that we had desired it in Capacity of Collectors of the Country Government Revenues. He therefore begged Leave to refer us to the Archives of the Country.

33 The following is a literal Transcript of Mr Bio's Statement of his Claims

On all of this Country's Manufactures Goods, and Produce brought into this Place from the several Aurungs the Duty is $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent on the Aurung Prices.

All such Goods and Merchandizes brought into this Settlement or within the Danish Limits as they unavoidably before they can be brought in must have paid the stipulated Duties $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent are afterward when exported from this on our Ships or sent off on Sloops or open Boats down the River to such Danish Ship as on Account of their Burthen cannot come here and take in their Cargoes to pass under the Passports or Dustocks of the Chief of this Place free and without any Detention, either at Calcutta or any where else.

When Danish Ships arrive here either from Europe or anywhere else no Manifest must be demanded of their Cargoes as we are only to pay $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent on what we sell when our Imported Goods are sent either up or down the River for Sale then $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent Duty is paid on their Prime Cost to the Native Custom Officers at Houghley.

"It has always been customary that our Goods have been permitted to pass under the Dustock of the Chief specifying the Quality Quantity and Value of the Goods the same Dustocks were recorded at the Custom Chakies when where they passed and accordingly the Amount Duties at $\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent where [sic] paid once a year to the Buxbunder at Houghly.

Corns and all sorts of Provisions for the Consumptions of this Settlement brought in by our own Inhabitants must as usually pass Duty free under the Dustock of the Chief.

34. Copies of the Statement and of Mr Bio's Letters which accompanied it, were sent to the Commissioners of Customs, and they were

directed to deliver to us their Observations upon them.

35 They did so in an Address to which we have the Honor to
 Consultation refer you, bearing Date the 16th and entered on our
 17th August Proceedings of the 17th August

36 Our Answer to Mr Bies Requisitions appears in the following
 Extract of our Letter to that Gentleman bearing Date the 24th of the same
 Month

The first Claim states that "on all this Countrys Manufactures,
 Goods and Produce brought into Fredericksnagore from
 Consn the several Auring's the Duty in [is] $2\frac{1}{2}$ P cent on the
 24 Augt Auring Prices "

"This is the present usage and no Complaint has been made of a
 Breach of it "

The second Claim states that "All such Goods and Merchandize
 brought into the Settlement of Fredericksnagore, or within the Danish
 Limits, as they unavoidably before they can be brought in must have paid
 the stipulated Duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent, are afterward when exported from
 that Settlement on your Ships, or sent in Sloops or open Boats down the
 River to such Danish Ships as on Account of their Buithen cannot go there
 to take in their Cargoes, to pass under the Passports or Dawstocks of
 the Chief of Fredericksnagore free and without any Detention either at
 Calcutta or any where else "

"The Indulgences that were formerly granted are and will be continu-
 ed to all Ships under the Description of the Danish Companys Ship. We
 are sorry that we cannot agree that Goods which have paid the Duties
 on importing at Serampore, and are going down to such ships should pass
 under your Dawstocks They must pass under Rowanau from the Govern-
 ment Custom House "

Your third Claim states that "When Danish Ships arrive at Frede-
 ricksnagur from Europe or anywhere else no Manifest must be demanded
 of their Cargoes as you are only to pay $2\frac{1}{2}$ P. Cent on what you sell When
 your imported Goods are sent either up or down the River for sale then
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent Duty is paid on their Prime Cost to the Native Custom Officers
 at Houghly "

We find that the established Practise observed at the Bux-
 bunder was to demand a Manifest of all Cargoes from Sea upon their
 Importation, and to levy a Duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ P. Cent on both Imports and
 Exports

Your fourth Claim states that "It has always been customary to
 have your Goods permitted to pass under the Dawstocks of your Chief,
 Specifying the Quality, Quantity and Value of the Goods The same
 Dawstocks were recorded at the Custom Chokies where they passed, and
 Accordingly the Amount Duties at $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent were paid once a Year to the
 Buxbunder at Houghly "

We are concerned that we cannot agree with You in respect to
 the Existence of the Custom represented in the foregoing Claim We

are sorry that we cannot permit any Merchandize to pass under the Sanction of your Daustock All Goods conveyed in Sloops a[nd] Boats from your Settlement or any Part of the Provinces must be furnished with Rowanahs a Form not dispensed with even in the Case of our own Investments from the Aurunga.

Your fifth Claim states that Grain and all sorts of Provisions for the Consumption of the Settlement of Fredericksnagore brought in by your own Inhabitants must as usual pass Duty free under the Daustock of the Chief

The Articles herementioned must pay the Government Duties as heretofore has been the Practise throughout the Provinces.

37 To this Letter we have not been yet favored with any Reply

38 Mr^r Bio frequently remonstrated to us against the Payment of Duties which we had required on the Goods sent down to his Ship the Christianberg His last Letter on this Subject is in Consultation 2d September

39 We informed him in Answer to It that we could not consistently with the Duty which we owed to our Employers relax from the Claim

Portuguese

40 The Viceroy of Goa having repeated to us his Request that Mr Lewis Da Costa might be admitted as Agent for the Portuguese Nation in Bengal we have at length complied with it and Mr Da Costa has been received accordingly

Fort William
5th December 1781

We have the Honor to be &c.

30

LETTER DATED 8 DECEMBER 1781

Lucknow transactions—relations with the Nizam—siege of Janjira by Marathas—Makel's appointment as Resident at Poona.

To the Hon^{ble} the Court of Directors.

Hon^{ble} Sirs,

1 The Surgeons having been lately engaged for the Conveyance of our Dispatches to Europe we have the Honor to transmit to you by that vessel a Triplicate of our Address by the Copenhagen bearing Date the 5th

August, and a Duplicate of that which was sent to Bombay on the 13th of last Month to be forwarded to you from hence by the Way of Bussorah. In those Letters we had the Honor to lay before you a full Account of our Proceedings, and of the State of your Affairs to their respective Dates, as far as the same was in any wise connected with the Duties prescribed for this Department, and we shall now transmit to you a Narrative of subsequent Events at the same Time that we enclose a Copy of our Consultations beginning with the 18th March to which Period they were sent by the Earl of Oxford, and ending with the 23rd November An Index is transmitted with them

2 We had the Honor to acquaint you in our last Address that the Governor General arrived at the Presidency on the 4th Ultimo and resumed his seat at the Board on the 11th The same Letter conveyed to you the Substance of a Narrative which the Governor General had transmitted to us, under Date the 20th September, of the Progress and Close of his Proceedings at Lucnow This Narrative includes with other Matters a State of your Claims on the Nabob Vizier from the 1st July 1784 to the End of August 1785, being Lucnow Rupees 1,05,00,000, an Account of the Provision made for the complete Discharge of them within that Period, and a Report of the Settlement concluded by the Minister for a Period of five and in some Instances of six Years on an encreasing Jumma Copies of the Governor General's Letter, and of the Accounts and Papers enclosed in it attend you Numbers in the Packet

3 Your Hon'ble Court has been advised that in a subsequent Letter from the Governor General bearing Date the 1st October, he stated to us the Hardships which the Vizier sustains from the Army Subsidy's being kept up at its original Rate although the Number of your Troops employed for the Defence of his Dominions had been greatly reduced, and that the Governor General had proposed, as the easiest and most equitable Method of reconciling our present Arrangements with strict Justice, that the Regiment stationed at Lucnow should be included in the Number of Troops for which the original Subsidy was settled, that the Vizier should be allowed Credit for the Amount of the subsidy with which he had been separately charged for that Regiment from the Time of the Reduction of your Military Establishment, and that to entitle you to receive this separate Subsidy in future an additional Regiment should be sent to Cawnpore

4 The Proposition thus submitted to us by the Governor General lay for Consideration when we had last the Honor of addressing you, but it has been since taken up, and written Opinions have been delivered on it by the several members of the Board Copies of these Opinions are transmitted to you, and include another subject of Discussion, vizt the Recall of your Troops under the Command of Sir John Cumming from Futteghur, as agreed to by the Governor General on a Representation made to him by his Excellency the Vizier We beg Leave to recommend these Minutes to the attentive Perusal of your Honorable Court

5 We have the Honor also to transmit to you Numbers in the Packet,

Copies of two Letters received by the Governor General from Major Brown under Date the 2nd and 3rd of last Month the first communicating the Report of the Assassination of Afrasiab Caun¹ and the latter establishing the Truth of that Report and adding that the Wound received by the Nabob had proved mortal. Mirza Zein ul Abedien Cawn was thought to have been the Contriver of the Act as the Assassin was one of his private Horsemen and Mirza Zein ul Abedien fled immediately after Afrasiab had received his Wound to the Camp of Madajee Sindia. The Suspicion obtained further strength from the Discovery that was made of his having been the Author of a Conspiracy against the life of Afrasiab in April notwithstanding which Afrasiab Cawn had not only pardoned him but admitted him to his Confidence.

6 Major Brown further advises that the Shah had established the Kellahdar of Agra² (Father in Law to Afrasiab Caun and Kellahdar on the Part of that Caun) in the same Office on the Part of His Majesty and that the Royal Colours were hoisted in the Fort and over the Public Offices throughout the Town.

7 A Minute has lately been delivered in by the Governor General which contains an abridged Report of his Proceedings in Relation to the Prince Mirza Jewan Bukht Jehandar Shah. We should readily comply with the Governor General's Desire that the Substance of it should be inserted in this Letter if we were not sure that a mere Abstract could not do Justice to a Narrative written expressly for your Information upon a Subject of essential Importance to your Interests and well deserving your particular Attention. We shall therefore annex a Copy of it to this address.

8 We had the Honor to acquaint you in our last Dispatches that the Governor General had transmitted to us the Nabob Vizier's Objections to an Account delivered in by Mr Bristow of the Expediture of the Amount of Rupees 11 01 508 3 2 in part of his Collections of which Sum he admitted only Rupees 8 70 619 1 8 that the Vizier had called upon Us for our Assistance in recovering for him the Balance which he thus stated to be due to him that we had thought proper to require Mr Bristow's Reply to the Charge preferred against him and that he had requested to be allowed a short Delay to enable him to examine and arrange the Papers relative to the Subject. Mr Bristow has since given in his Answer which We have the Honor to transmit with its Enclosures Numbered in this Dispatch together with Copy of a Minute which the Governor General has delivered on them. We shall take an early Occasion to send the Papers together with the Demand on Mr Bristow as contained in the Governor General's Letters of the 10th of June & 13th of August and Mr Bristow's Reply to it.

9 We have lately received a Representation from Mr William Cowper in which he explains to us his Situation in the Affairs of his late Situation and desires Mr Bristow at London and have the Honor to transmit a Copy

of Mr. Cowpers Letter a Number in the Packet, together with a Copy of the Governor General's Remarks on it.

10. It appears by an Account which we have lately received from the Accomptant at Lucnow that the Sum due from the Vizier on the 31st of October, was reduced to Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees 41,87,853 3 5. A Copy of Mr. Wombwell's Letter and his account of the State of the Treasury at Lucknow go Numbers in the Packet

11 We think it necessary to submit to your Hon'ble Court a Copy of a Letter which we have received from Lord Macartney, bearing Date 29th October, in which his Lordship has been pleased to assume a Right in his own Person of replying to a Letter written by us on the 2nd Sept. to the Select Committee at large, of throwing very unwarrantable Reproach upon the Acts of this Government, and of delivering Insinuations which We deem highly unbecoming his relative Station to it We have acknowledged the Receipt of the Letter in one which We have addressed to your Select Committee at Fort St George and we have sent them a Copy of it, but we have not thought proper to reply to it

12 Your Right Hon'ble President and Select Committee at Fort St. George have lately transmitted to us Copies of two Letters which they had received from the Resident at Hyderabad & of their Reply to them The first of Mr Johnson's Letters mentions generally the uncertain State of his Negotiations in respect to the Guntoor Circar, desires the earliest Information, should any hostile Appearances betray themselves on the Part of the Nabob Tippoo Sultaun against the Company, expresses his Wish that he had been permitted to have given a favourable Answer to the Soubahs expected Demand of Compliance on our Behalf with the Concluding Clause of the 6th Article of the Treaty of 1768, and represents the Jealousy entertained as well by Tippoo Saib as Nana Furnese of his continuance at Hyderabad, and the repeated Applications made for his Discharge The last of Mr Johnson's Letters to your Select Committee mentions the Movements of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan's Troops, their Arrival at Gootee, which is the most northerly District adjoining to Adoni, and that they had made an Incursion into Kemchemgute, the nearest Zemindarry under Adoni and carried off the Zemindar That this may be considered as the opening of Hostilities, and that probably no further Efforts may be required in Tippoo's taking Possession of the Nizam's Southern Provinces, for no opposition whatever seemed to be intended, that it was understood that Mahabut Jung, the present ostensible Possessor of Adoni and Cayebor, had by Letter submitted to Tippoo as had also Rummut Khan, the Nabob of Kanoul, so that these three Districts were nominally in the Possession of the Invader and that probably they would soon become virtually so Mr Johnson further observed that nothing now remained but the Guntoor, which is on the one hand claimed by the English, and on the other threatened to be taken by Tippoo That it was surmised at Hyderabad that, when Tippoo's apprehended Invasion of the Guntoor should be certain the

Consn

23d November

Nizam would incline to fulfil his Engagements towards us, but it would then be a Question of Prudence on Behalf of the English whether they should accept of so entangled a Surrender of what was deposited in the Nabob's Hands free of all Troubles and Mr Johnson requests your Select Committee's Sentiments whether in Case of such a Tender being made to him he should without Condition or Hesitation accept of the Surrender or not

13 Your Select Committee were at a Loss what Opinion to deliver on the question stated to them by the Resident at Hydrabad There were various Arguments to be urged on both sides but they were at length inclined to an opinion that an offer of the Guntoor Circar under the certainty of its being immediately attacked by an Enemy of Nizam Ally would not be conformable to the Letter or Spirit of the Treaty with his Highness, that to enter into the Possession of it at such a Crisis would be almost equivalent to a new Declaration of War on the Part of the Company against Tippoo and that so embarrassed a Surrender was perhaps worse than no Surrender at all

14 Our Sentiments on this Subject have been delivered to your Select Committee and we have informed them that the Tender supposed by Mr Johnson ought not to be accepted if it were made since it could not be offered but in manifest Evasion of the Spirit of the Treaty existing between the Company and Nizam Ally Khan who is and must be deemed responsible for having so long withheld the Guntoor from us in express Contradiction to his Engagements.

15 Your Select Committee informs us that Tippoo Sultaun had at the Requisition of their President sent an Order to Meer Cummur dien Cawn to deliver up the Places which he had detained belonging to the Raja of Venkatgherry and to give him Credit for the Revenues collected during the Time they have been in his (Cummerdien Cawn's) Possession so that they hope the Disputes on that Subject were in a Train to be speedily accommodated They inform us also that the Evacuation of Malapuddy and one or two other Villages to the Westward on the Borders of the Carnatic was completed and the Barrier across the Valley near Ambur opened which had made the Communication free for the Return of the Inhabitants of the Carnatic from Tippoo's Country

16 We have the Honor to transmit Now in this Dispatch Copies of Letters which we have since received from the Resident at Hydrabad bearing Date the 30th October and 1st of last Month the latter contains much new Matter and ends in a Paper which is entitled Heads of a Plan for a Negotiation with the Nizams Court as Soubehdar of the Deccan with a view to a final Treaty between that Nabob and the English to be regulated by a real intimate & permanent Junction of Interests to the exclusion of the foreign and numerous combinations which appear as pretences to form the Basis of the Politics of this Court

17 The Subjects of Mr Johnson's Letter are of Importance and we propose to take them into our serious Consideration at our next Meeting

18 In a Letter which we have lately received from your President & Select Committee at Bombay they have advised us of a Dispute which has happened between Sciddie Abdo Rhahim Khaun of Rajipoie, & one of his Officers Zumra, Tandar of Mutgar, by whose Defection that Fort had fallen into the Hands of an Officer of the Marattas residing at Tulliah, that the Sciddee, in virtue of the Treaty concluded in his Behalf in 1761 between the Presidency of Bombay and the Maratta State, in the 14th Article of which it is stipulated "that the Sciddie's Country is not to be molested in future by any of the Maratta Officers or Subjects," expected your assistance & Support, and that Intelligence had been received from Mr Boddam's private Agent at Poona by which it appeared that the Sciddie's Fears of an Attack from the Marattas were not without Foundation, as Nana had Charged the Sciddee with constant Non-observance of Agreement & various Breaches of Faith, and declared his Intention of Punishing him We are further informed that your President at Bombay had, in Consequence of a Resolution of the Select Committee, addressed the Peshwa offering his Mediation to accommodate any Differences between the Peshwa and the Sciddee, and promising Impartial Justice in the Decision on them, but it was noticed to the Peshwa that it was incompatible with the Honor & Dignity of the Company's Government to suffer One of their Dependents to be attacked without affording him that Protection & support which he was entitled to, and in this Instance by a Treaty confirmed & strengthened by that concluded at Salbey thro' the Mediation of Mahajee Sindia, in which it is agreed that the Friends and Enemies of the Company & Maratta State shall be mutual

19 Your Select Committee advise us that, as the Information could not entirely be depended on they had resolved to send Mr Mallet to Rajpore to confer with Abdo Rhahim on the real Situation of his Affairs, and to ascertain what Security he purposed giving to indemnify the Company for any Charges that might be incurred, and that they meant that Mr Mallet should be accompanied by Major Nickleson of the Engineers to observe & report on the Military Force now in the Service of the Sciddee and the Condition of the Fort at Gingerah, its Guns, Stores &c

Your Select Committee add "Should the Marattas actually lay seige to Gingerah,³ taking advantage of the late Disputes between the Khaun and his Officers, it will prove a matter of real Concern to us, as our assisting the Sciddee, altho' in support of positive Engagements, may be construed into an aptitude to embroil the Company with the Poona Government, while on the other hand we might incur severe Censure if we looked tamely on, and saw them in breach of a solemn existing Treaty with us possess themselves of what will be a very valuable acquisition and what they would long ago have made themselves Masters of, if not prevented by the spirited interposition under the Government of Mr Crommeln "

"We are in hopes however our President's Letter, and the Rumor of

Mr Mallet's Trip to Rajipore may cause the Peshwa to lay aside his present designs and not anything short of his proceeding to the last Extremity shall force us into other Measures than an amicable interference and should we most unwillingly be compelled to adopt other resolutions we shall make haste to communicate them to your Hon ble Board

In the meantime that you may be enabled to judge properly on this matter we have the honor to enclose Copies of all the Documents above alluded to as per List and mean to forward this through Mr James Anderson that he may communicate the contents to Mahajee Sindia and he perceive on how unjust & on how frivolous pretences the Court of Poona will venture to infringe their Treaties.

20 Lieut Anderson acquaints us that he should make a proper Statement to Mahajee Sindia of the Situation of Affairs as they now stand between you and the Peshwa in regard to the Seedy of Rajipore and would take the earliest Opportunity of acquainting us with the Result.

21 We shall wait for this Result before we pass any Decision upon the general Subject and in the meantime we rely with implicit confidence in the known Prudence of the Gentleman who now leads the Administration of your Affairs on the other Coast that nothing will be left undone to prevent a Rupture with the Maratta State & indeed we think the present possible Cause of it too trivial to produce it unless the Marattas themselves should as we have no reason to suspect be determined on Hostilities and force them.

22 We have the Honor to enclose a Copy of a Minute delivered by the Governor General several Days before the Arrival of the last Dispatches from Bombay in which we are advised of the Steps which the Governor had taken on a Proposition which we had made to him for his Concurrence in it so long ago as on the 18th of March last and communicated to the Secret Committee of your Hon ble Court that he should endeavour to reconcile Madajee Sindia to the Residence of a Minister from this Government at Poona. The Question came again before us by the Governor General's communicating to us an Extract of a Letter which he had received from Mr Boddam who had Reason to believe that such a Measure was intended and observed that should it be our Resolution to send a Resident to Poona no Person probably could be found better qualified for that Employ than Mr Mallet a Senior Servant on your Establishment at Bombay and we believe the same Gentleman who has been lately nominated on a temporary service at Rajipore who with a knowledge of the Language and Manners of Indostan possesses a Rectitude of Sentiments and Conduct which the Acquaintance of many Years enabled Mr Boddam to vouch for.

23 The Expediency of appointing an English Resident at the Court of the Peshwa has been established to our Conviction we cheerfully concurred in the Measures which induced the Governor General to propose Mr Mallet for the Service and I have requested the Lieutenant at Bombay to permit us to employ him but for the purpose of instructing Mr Mallet in the

General Line of his Negotiations and of establishing a concerted Plan of Correspondence with our Minister at the Court of Madajee Sindia, for the Purpose also of avoiding both an Opposition of Influence, and the Appearance of it in our Transactions with two Powers, to which we bear a common Relation as to the Members of the same State, but whose respective Interests and Views may occasionally lead them to different Lines of Policy, in which without such a Caution our Agents might be involved, We have desired your Select Committee at Bombay to depute Mr. Malet to go immediately to the Camp of Madajee Sindia, as on his Way to this Presidency, and with actual Orders to proceed to this Presidency if it shall be judged necessary for his more effectual Instruction, or otherwise to receive his Appointment and Credentials there.

24 The Governor General has communicated our Intentions respecting the proposed Appointment to Madajee Sindia through Mr James Anderson, and, on Intimation from your Servants at Bombay of their Acquiescence in our Proposal we shall prepare the introductory Letters, and other Instruments which may be necessary to enable Mr. Malet to enter on his Charge, and for the Purpose of comprehending in his Instructions such Points of their Government as may require his particular Attention to them we have desired the Gentlemen at Bombay to furnish us with their Wishes, and the necessary Materials relating to them

25 We have also proposed that Mr. Wilkinson, one of your Covenanted Servants on the Bombay Establishment, and now here on Leave, should be appointed an Assistant to Mr Malet, and permitted to proceed to his Charge by the Route of Sindia's Camp, where he may wait until Mr Malet's Arrival, and where he may soonest meet him Mr Wilkinson is known to us to be a servant of abilities and Integrity, and is conversant in the Country Languages, and in every way qualified to assist Mr. Mallet in his proposed appointment at the Court of Poona

26 In our Proceedings of the 23rd November, you will observe a Representation made to us by our Military Secretary, in which he acquits himself to our entire Satisfaction of any Blame that might be imputed to him on your not receiving by the Nerbudda Packet the List of the Army and Casualties which he had prepared and transmitted to the General Department to be forwarded to you by that Dispatch They were afterwards transmitted to the Secretary of your Hon'ble Court with other Military Records, and conveyed as far as Madras in the Lizard Cutter, so that we trust you will receive them Our Secretary in this Department has laid before us the Circumstances of the Omission which Colonel Kyd complains of, as far as he could be concerned in them, and they occur to his Recollection, and we have desired an Explanation of them from our Secretary in the Public Department also The Fact is no otherwise very material than to shew that Colonel Kyd has not been deficient in complying with your Command of the 6th March 1783, and to justify him in your Opinion for any supposed Neglect of his official Duty

27 The State of Our Treasuries is as follows.

State of the Treasuries 7th December 1784

Ready Money

General Treasury	54,528.3 7	
Khalsah	40 010 4.3	94,538 7.10]

Bills Receivable

General Treasury S Rs.	10,50 000- -	12 18 000 -	
Khalsah	-do-	97 187-8-9	1 12 737.8.10 13,30,7[37.8 10]

Mint

General Treasury	-
Khalsah	

Unsorted Treasure

Valued at 10 per Cent
Better than C.Rs.

Current Rupees 14[25,276 -8]

Balance account deposits

11,32 951 10 4

do Accomptant General to the
Mayors Court

1,20 101 13.9

do of the old Bonded Debt on
which the Interest has ceased
by publick Advertisement

45 117 0 8

New bonded Debt at 8 per Cent

1 60,09 607 12.11

4 per Cent Remittance Loan

10 00 680

Annuities

[1 00 04518-5-8]

Diminution in the Deposits
from 6th to the 8th Instant

0,568.2

Errors Excepted

Charles [Quitel]

S T Account[ant General]

Fort William

8th December 1784

[Per Surpense]

We have the Honor to be

Honble Sirs,

Your most faithful humble Servants,

Warren Hastings, J.M./J.S

LETTER DATED 14 JANUARY 1785

[Foreign Department]

Question of restoration of Dutch trade privileges—demand for restitution of Surat and Broach factories—dispute with the Danes regarding custom duties—John Carnac appointed Resident at Goa in place of Charles Crommelin.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. Our last Advice from this Department were dated the 8th Ultio. and dispatched by the Surprize They have been forwarded in Duplicate & Triplicate Copies by your Ships Southampton and Vansittart, and a Quaduplicate of them now attends you a Number in our Packet by the Valentine. We have the Honor to transmit to you also by this Conveyance the broken Sett of our Proceedings to the 4th Instant, and the Index to it.

Dutch

2. Our Consultation of the 14th Ultio contains a Letter from the Chief and Council at Chinsura in which they state to Ascertain Privileges as having been allowed, before the Commencement of the late War, to the Trade of their Nation in this Country, and desire that these may be restored to it We were solicited at the same Time to permit the Dutch Flag to be hoisted at Chinsura.

Consn 14 Septr.
1784

3. We allowed to the reasons that were urged in Support of this last request all the Weight that could be given to them, and we granted the Permission that was desired reserving to ourselves, however, the right of withdrawing it when any case should occur to make this our indispensable Duty as in the Instance of the refusal of the Marquis De Bussy to accede to the Proposal which we had made to him for the immediate Cession of Trincomale to the Government of Ceylon, and for the Execution of the other Provisions in the Definitive Treaty with France, as far as the same have Relation to the East Indies

4. But the Gentlemen at Chinsura have not been satisfied with this condition. They appear to claim rather as a Right what was before solicited merely as a favor, and, instead of candidly accepting what we had done, they indirectly reproach us for not having done More

Consn 4th Janry.
1785

5 We have acquainted them of course that as the prehlminary Articles of Peace with the States General direct that the mutual Cessions therein

Stipulated should be made at the same Period with those between England and France we did not think proper to Comply with their Desire, nor could we think ourselves at Liberty to do so until the expected Arrangements should have actually taken place on the Coast

6 The Account which we have received from Chinsura of the Privileges that were formerly allowed to the Dutch Trade¹ yet rests for our Decision upon It It differs from that which has been submitted to us by the Commissioners of Customs and as our Resolutions on it whatever they may be will include the Trade of the other Foreign Settlements, or may be quoted as an Example that should guide our Judgement on any Questions that relate to it we wish to be fully possessed of the Facts and properly acquainted with the Provisions if any that may have been made on the Subject in the Definitive Treaty with States General before We determine upon it

7 The Chief and Council at Chinsura having acquainted us with some Difficulties which they met with in sending down Salt Petre and Goods to the Ship Straalen from the Detention of their Boats by our Collector of Government Customs we immediately issued Orders to the Board of Customs, to release a Boat that was said to be yet Detained and to permit all such other Boats to pass as the Gentlemen at Chinsura might Dispatch to the Straalen relying on their report or on that of the persons in Charge of the Boats for a true Account of the Quantity of each Cargo that the Amount of Duties to be collected if any might be ascertained hereafter

8 On this Occasion we waved [sic] the common Usage of our port, and suspended the Rights of your Government to accommodate the Dutch Trade and indeed on every other Occasion that has offered We have shown an earnest Inclination to cultivate and improve that good Understanding which has lately been revived between our Sovereign and the States General, and we had hoped that a similar Disposition had been established in the Gentlemen at Chinsura. Hitherto however they have been deficient in affording us the proofs of it Indeed We have been lately obliged to complain of an Act that was represented to us by your Commissioners of Customs and appeared to us to be so very unjustifiable as to require immediate Reparation for it The Fact as it has been

stated to us by the Commissioners is that satisfactory Vouchers were requested by the Collector of Customs at Hooghly from Mr Herklots the Chief at Chinsura of the Quantity and sort of the Goods imported by each Sloop or Boat previous to the Cargo of the Straalen being landed at that place that the Dutch Governor under various pretences and from Time to Time refused to deliver them and that notwithstanding the repeated Representations and Remonstrances of the Collector under the Collector of Customs at Hooghly the Goods were refused as a result

9 We cannot but suppose that the Impropriety of such Conduct must have been sent to the Gentlemen at Chinsura themselves on its be-

ing represented to them, we did so therefore in Terms that were expressive of our Displeasure at it, and we desired that they would deliver to the Bux Bunder without Delay a Manifest of such Goods as had been or might be landed from the Ship Straalen.

10 We are informed by your President and Council of Bombay under
 Consn 28 Decr Date the 8th November that a Dutch Ship had arrived
 1784 at Surat Bar with the Appointment of a Director and
 Council for the Management of Affairs of that Nation,
 and to receive from the Hon'ble Company the possessions formerly held
 by the Dutch at Surat and Broach, agreeably to the 9th Article of the
 preliminary Treaty between Great Britain and the States General Your
 President and Select Committee have acquainted us at the same time that
 Mr Sluysken and the other Gentlemen had made a formal Demand of
 their Factory (by which we suppose their Factory at Surat) that they had
 replied to it in the Terms of their Instructions to the Chief and Council,
 and that they had also publicly notified to the Dutch that the Company
 had by a late Treaty ceded to Mahajee Sindia the City and Pergunna of
 Broach, and that he was now in full possession of the Sovereignty of both

11. The Reply thus given by your President and Select Committee to
 the claims of the Director and Council appears to us to have been very
 proper, but we have expressed our Wish to be better informed than We are
 at present of the Nature of the Establishment that was formerly possessed
 by the Dutch at Broach—the origin of it, and on what Authorities it was
 founded, since a question may arise out of this Claim and our Grant to
 Mahajee Sindia which our Superiors in England, if it should come before
 them, may be required to decide, and for this purpose it is necessary that
 you should have all the Lights that can be given to you on the Subject of it

12. In our Letter to your President and Select Committee at
 Bombay under Date 23d November we acquainted them with the proposi-
 tions which we had made to the Marquis De Bussy (as advised in our Ad-
 dress to your Hon'ble Court of the 8th December) for the accomplishment of
 the several stipulations in the Definitive Treaty between his Britannick
 Majesty and the Most Christian King in as far as the same related to the
 East Indies, and we requested that they would be pleased to carry them
 into Effect on the Western Side of India on receiving advices from Fort
 St George that they had been fulfilled under that Presidency We have
 since thought it necessary to inform them that our Instructions were in-
 tended to apply also to the Preliminaries with the States General, the
 Execution of the provisions in one Treaty being dependent on the Execu-
 tion of those in the other

13 Adverting to the Orders of your Hon'ble Court, as contained in
 the 9th paragraph of your General Letter dated 24th Sept 1783,
 that we should transmit to you by an early Conveyance the necessary
 Receipts, and attested Accounts and other authentic Titles relative to the
 Subsistence and Maintenance of the British and French Prisoners during
 the late War, and as, in Consequence of the Discontinuance of the Allow-

ances that were Granted to the *Dutch* we are enabled to have similar Accounts and Vouchers transmitted to you of the subsistence and Maintenance of the British Prisoners and those of that Dutch Nation We have directed our Accomptant General and Mr Purling to prepare the same without Delay that they may be sent to you by the earliest Opportunity and in the Complete and Satisfactory State which you have been pleased to Order in respect to the Subsistence of the French Assisted by the fullest

Explanations and Elucidations that Mr Purling and our
 Consn. Secretaries can furnish Copies of all Accounts Receipts
 14 Decr and other authentic Titles which are Vouchers for the several Charges entered in the Statement are to be attested in Duplicate and in the most regular and formal Manner by the proper Officer of the Supreme Court of Judicature

Danes

11 We wish that we were able to Acquaint you that Mr Bio the Governor of Fredericksnagore had thought proper to discontinue his Complaints and his Remonstrances against the Rules that are followed by our Commissioners of Customs in levying the Duties on the Danish Trade we should have forbore and we should yet forbear from troubling you with a Recital of them since many are of a frivolous and very unimportant Nature did we not imagine from the strong and menacing Expression in which Mr Bio has been pleased to state them to us that he proposes to make them or has made them the subject of a Public Representation to his Court and that they will of Consequence be obtruded on the Attention of our Own

15 On the 4th of last Month Mr Bio addressed a Letter to the Governor General stating that Captn Clements the Commander of the Danish East India Ship *Kroon Princessen* had complained to him that the English Pilot who had taken Charge of that Ship had been restrained from conducting her out of the River and that the Commander on a written application which he made to the President of the Board of Customs for the reason of it had been verbally informed that Captain Clements must Deliver a manifest of the Cargo of a Danish *Snow* which some Days before had carried Goods from Fredericksnagore to be laden on the *Kroon Princessen* in this River

Mr Bio thought proper to call this a most unprecedented Demand and entirely inconsistent with the Rules of the Country Government and he requested that we would Order the Commissioners of Customs to desist from hindering his Danish Majesty's Subjects in their lawful Trade and as soon as possible to put an End to all the Troubles Insults and Injuries that the Danish Nation had suffered since the Establishment of that Board

16 We immediately acquainted the Commissioners of Customs with Mr Bio's Complaint and desired that they would furnish us with full Information on the Subject of it

17 They did so and the Revenue which induced them to direct the

Pilot not to proceed with Captain Clement's Ship until Satisfaction had been rendered to our Custom House, for the Irregularity which had been committed in the receipt of 400 Bales of Piece Goods on board after she had dropped down, the peons of the Office having endeavoured in vain to prevent their being shipped without an Order, appearing to us very sufficient, We directed that the Ship should be detained until the rights of Government were satisfied

18 On this Occasion Mr Bie was pleased to decry those Rights, and to prefer Claims in favor of the Danes which even British Subjects do not possess at this port He thought proper also to hold out the Threat of a Protest against Us for injurious Treatment, if he should find it necessary to comply with our Demands

19 Mr Bie's Claims were of such a Nature that we were at a Loss to conceive on what Foundations they could be made to rest, and we requested that he would be so obliging as to state them, or to furnish us with Copies of the Instruments on which they were grounded.

20 We informed him that we should be much concerned on many Accounts if he should see it necessary to proceed to the Extremity of entering his Protest against any act of this Government, and particularly because such an Act would reduce us to the Necessity of protesting on our part against him for interrupting the Harmony which had so long subsisted between his Settlement and Ours, and which We were anxious to preserve and even to increase.

21 It is within the Knowledge of the Board that Twenty Ships under Danish Colours have imported in this river in the Course of the present Season, and that Ten of these Ships are yet here and at Fredericksnagore under Orders of Dispatch for Europe, whereas for some years preceeding the late War we Understand that only Four Ships Arrived annually and only one of these was said to be a Ship [of] the Danish East India Company.

A Stronger Proof perhaps may not be requisite of the Advantages derived or expected by the Danes from their Trade with Bengal, nor do We think that a clearer Evidence can be desired that the Trade is not burthened with unusual or unreasonable Imposts

22. But our Differences with the Governor of Fredericksnagore were not yet concluded A Representation had been received from the Commissioners of Customs in which it appeared that Mr. Bie had not only denied the Right of your Custom House Officers to demand the Manifest of a Cargo that had been brought in a private Danish Ship to Fredericksnagore, but had proceeded to the unwarrantable Measure of forcing the Landing of the Goods, and seizing and confining the People who acted under the Authority of Mr Kinlock, your Collector of Customs at Houghly

23 Mr Bie's Conduct in this Instance was so very improper and so derogatory to the Dignity of your Government, that it was necessary to afford him a decided proof of our Sense of it, and to adopt such Resolutions as were likely to prevent a Repetition of it

24 We therefore thought it necessary to require and Demand that

he should immediately release the people who were in Confinement, that he should satisfy them for the personal Injuries which they had suffered by the Violence of his Proceedings against them and that he should deliver the Manifest of the Goods landed from the Ship to the Officers of the Bux Bunder

We acquainted him That it was owing to our Moderation and to the Desire that We possessed not to proceed without absolute necessity to the Extremities which his Conduct warranted, that we had been content to make these Demands that The Occasion of them was serious and could not be overlooked and that we thought it necessary to apprize him if they were not immediately complied with we should be obliged to take such Measures as the Support of our Authority and of the injured rights of your Government required that We should then send an armed Force to attack the Ship from which the Goods were forcibly landed, and should not allow any Pilot to take Charge of any Danish Ship nor should we suffer any Danish Ship to pass the Guns of Fort William, whether up or down the River until he should have made the Reparation and Satisfaction which we had required and should have promised to conform hereafter to the established Regulations and Orders of the port as they had already been communicated to him in our Letter yet unanswered bearing Date the 24th August and written in reply to the several Claims which he had submitted to us, on the 30th June preceding

We added that he was now informed of the Consequences to which his Conduct might expose him that we had acted with Fairness in stating them to him and it rested with him to preclude the Necessity of their taking Effect and That we had over shown the most anxious Desire to accommodate his Government and to advance the commercial Interests of his Nation

25 We have the honor to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin, for this Letter and Mr Biss Reply to it. The Account which he has given us of his Proceedings differs so materially from that stated to the Commissioners by the Collector of Customs at Houghly that we have directed them to call the Collector before them and having required his Reply to such Parts of Mr Biss representation as relate to him to report his answer to Us without Delay

26 We are very desirous that no part of our Conduct towards the Foreign Settlements in this Country should give just cause of offence in Europe or furnish Grounds for any representation or Remonstrance that can in their Consequences affect or tend to effect the Good Understanding which subsists at present between Great Britain and the Neighbouring Powers or in any wise embarrass His Majesty's Councils or those of our immediate Superiors We therefore request that you will do us the Honor to acquaint us by the earliest Opportunity with your Sentiments and Orders in respect to the Duties on the Trade of the Foreign Settlements We mean

particularly to know, anticipating, as We do, in this Inquiry the Applications that We imagine will be made to Us in Consequence of the 13th Article of the Definitive Treaty with France, whether the Subjects of Denmark and Holland are to be allowed the same Privileges as are or were enjoyed by the India Companies under those States respectively, or Whether We shall continue the Distinctions that are or have been made in the Duties usually levied on the Commerce of the Companies and on that of Individuals

27. Two Considerations must direct your view of this important Subject First the Preservation of those rights which are intimately connected with the Sovereign Control of these Provinces

2ndly. That general freedom of Trade to all the European Powers, trading to India which they may consider as their Right by sunnud from the Sovereigns of the Country, and which is intimately connected with the prosperity of the Country itself, by the Importation of foreign Specie, and the Benefits of an unmonopolized Commerce.

28 To these Points Our Attention shall be faithfully directed in any Disputes that may arise with Foreign Nations previous to the receipt of your explicit Orders upon this interesting Subject

29 We shall not omit to conform to your Instructions, as expressed in the 5 Paragraph of your General Letter dated 16th March 1784, by transmitting to you annually as correct an Account as can be obtained of the Foreign Ships arriving from and sailing to Europe with the particulars of their Cargoes

We have the Honor to be &ca &ca.

Fort William,
14th January 1785

P S.

Since the foregoing Letter was written Mr Crommeln has desired leave to resign his Office as Resident at Goa We have attended to his request and in Consideration of his long Services, his advanced Life, and visible decline of Health, we have unanimously agreed to allow him a Pension equal to the Salary that he drew in his late Office We beg leave to recommend to your Hon'ble Court and to make it our request that you will honor this resolution with your Sanction to it, and to the Continuance of the Effect of it for the Term that may yet remain of Mr Crommeln's Life, an Indulgence which, should you be pleased to grant it, will be in no Danger of becoming a Precedent, since there neither is nor can arise for a Length of Years to come another Instance of a servant of the Company descending from an Office of the first Trust and Dignity in the Service, and becoming at the close of Life Solicitor for a bare Subsistence

We have taken the Occasion that has offered on Mr Crommeln's Resignation of the Residency at Goa to testify our respect for the Character and Abilities of John Carnac Esqr at the same time to provide for the due Exercise of a Trust which We are convinced may in proper Hands become

of great Importance to your political Interests by conferring on Mr Carnao the Succession of that Office

Should you be pleased to Consider that Goa is in the Neighbourhood of the Durbar of Tippoo Sheb and of the Court of Poona, and that a constant Correspondence and commercial Intercourse are carried between Goa and Mauritius we assure Ourselves that you will readily approve the Continuance of a Minister on the Part of this Government in so favorable a situation as Goa.

On advertng also the high Offices which General Carnao has filled in your service and his extensive Local as well as General Knowledge of your Interests at all your Presidencies in India We are persuaded that you will not only approve but confirm the Appointment we have allotted to him

32

LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1785

Bombay Government's role in disputes between the Marathas and the Sids of Rajapur—payments due to Company's dependents at Broach—Peshwa appointed Vakil i Mutlaq—Conciliation of Prince Jahandar Shah with Shah Alam—debts of the Nawab of Oudh—Nizam Ali Khan's offer of treaty with the Company

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

1 Your Ship Valentine being under Orders to proceed to Europe We have the Honor to transmit to you a Quadruplicate of Our general Letter Per Surprise bearing Date the 8th Ultimo and a broken Sett of our Proceedings in this Department including those on the 4th Instant. The Index accompanies it

2 We communicated to you in our last Advice the Substance of those which We had received from Bombay in respect to a Dispute that had happened between Siddeo Abdo Rhabim Khan of Rajepore and one of his Officers named Zunroo Tandar of Mutgur and the part which had been taken by your President and Select Committee on this Occasion in consequence of Representations from the Siddeo and in Virtue of the Treaty concluded in his Behalf in 1761 between the Presidency of Bombay and the Maratta State We had also the Honor to acquaint you that We should wait for the communications which We expected from Lieut. Anderson, your Minister with Mahajee Sindia before We passed any Decision upon the general Subject relying in the meantime with implicit Confidence on the known Prudence of the Gentleman who now leads the Administration

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of your Affairs on the other Coast that nothing would be left undone to prevent a Rupture with the Maratta State. The Letter which We have alluded to from Bombay, and our reply to it, appear in our Proceedings noted in the Margin

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3. We were afterwards informed by Lieut Anderson that he had conferred with Sindia on the Differences between the Marattas and the Siddie of Rajapore, and had requested that he would write to Nana Furnevese to suspend his hostile Intentions against the Siddie, and accept of the Mediation proffered by Mr Boddam. We were also told that Sindia did not believe that Nana had any serious Intention of proceeding to Hostilities immediately against the Siddie, as it was unlikely that he would pursue a Measure of this Nature without previously acquainting him, and he had as yet received no Intelligence on the Subject that Sindia was at the same time aware that the Siddie's Conduct had of late been so infamous "as fully to warrant such a Design on the part of Nana" That Sindia had adduced several Instances of Outrages that had of late been committed by the Siddie upon the Maratta Territories, and seemed to think that nothing short of the total Extirpation of the Colony would effectually secure their Government from the like Insults in future for besides that the Siddie's People had acquired fixed Habits of Plunder, and Rapine from which they would never be reclaimed, he considered it as the necessary effect of their Situation, which being upon a barren Hill surrounded by the Sea naturally led them, as well from Necessity as the Security which it afforded them, to commit Depredations in the Marratta Countries

4. At the Time that Mr Anderson's letter reached us, one arrived from your President and Select Committee at Bombay, in which they submitted us the Information which they had received from Mr Mallet, who had been deputed to the Siddee of Rajapore, and the apparent

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Views of the Siddee, which seemed to be to obtain a Reinforcement of your Troops to enable him to reduce and destroy the Fort of Mutgur, but your President and

Select Committee assured us that it was "by no Means their Intention to send a Man to Gingerah unless that Fortress itself were invested by the Maratta's in Force and in imminent Danger of falling into the Hands of the Peshwa before they could possibly obtain our Instructions upon the Subject" The same letter advised us of the apparent unwillingness of the Peshwa to accept of the Mediation of Mr Boddam, and that he seemed to think himself at Liberty to proceed to any Extremities against the Siddie "altho he did not expressly say what those Intentions were, the Execution of which, however, whatever they may be, must depend much upon further Contingencies"

It was the Intention of your President at Bombay to address the Peshwa again, and to desire that no Measures might be taken until our Instructions should be received

5. With these Informations before Us, We could not hesitate in our

Belief that many Parts of the Siddie's Conduct had merited the Anger of the Marattas and that he had been the Aggressor in the Differences with them. Indeed there is presumptive Evidence of this in his own Letters. We conceived also that it was by no means improbable that he had wantonly excited that Anger with a view to engaging the Company on the Grounds of the Treaty of 1761 as Parties in his Cause, to forward his own Views with the new strength which your Assistance would afford him in the Prosecution of them And at all Events we were fixed in our Opinion that the Siddie of Rajpore ranked in too inferior a Character to deserve the Support which he solicited and we could not grant him without engaging you in a new War with the Maratta State or at least subjecting you to the Risk of being compelled to it For these Reasons we have desired that your President and Select Committee at Bombay would not interfere in the Siddie's Quarrels in any other manner than by endeavouring to prevent Hostilities between him & the Marattas and to adjust their Disputes if this can be effected to an amicable Termination of them by the Correspondence of your President with the Peshwa and Nana Furnavese We have directed them to temporize but on no Account to afford any Aid to the Siddie's Cause by detaching any Troops to his Service or sending him any Supply of Military Stores or in short doing any Act that can, even by Construction be deemed hostile to the Maratta Government, and if they should have adopted any Measure that may have a Tendency to produce Hostilities We have most earnestly requested them to revoke it

6 Since writing these Instructions We have been informed by Lieut. Anderson of a second Conversation which he had had with Mahajee Sindia on the Subject of the Siddie's Differences with the Maratta Government.¹ It appears by the Result of it that Sindia has agreed to write to Nana Furnavese that in Case Negotiations relative to the Siddie have heretofore been conducted thro the English the Circumstances of his Conduct may be represented to the Gentlemen at Bombay that they may put a stop to it but if hitherto that Business has been transacted directly thro the Peshwa without the Intervention of the English it was necessary on the strength of the Friendship subsisting between the Company and the Peshwa that no hasty Measure for punishing the Siddie should be adopted but that Intelligence of the whole should first be transmitted to Sindia that he may write to Nana what was proper and advisable, after consulting and obtaining the Approbation of the English Gentlemen in this Country

7 A Translation of Sindia's Letter to Nana Furnavese which we have nearly quoted in the Terms of it and the Letter from Mr Anderson accompanying it appear on our Proceedings of the 4th
 Consn. Instant. Lieut Anderson advises Us that he has trans-
 4th Jan'y 1785 mitted a Copy of Sindia's Letter to your President and
 Select Committee at Bombay

Your President and Select Committee having addressed Us in respect to the outstanding Debts that are yet owing to several English Gentlemen

and others from the Purgunna and City of Broach, advising Us that the Orders sent by Sindia to his Aumildars for the recovery of them have not had any Effect, We have directed Lieut Anderson to prepare a State of the Claim and present it to Mahajee Sindia with a particular request that he will issue positive Orders to his Officers to liquidate the Debts that may be justly owing to the Dependents of the Company on their commercial Engagements, informing him at the same Time that we make no Claim to any Arrears of Revenue, that might have been due when Broach was ceded to him, understanding the Right to these Arrears to have been done away when the Grant was made.

8. By an Estimate which we have received from Bombay of the Debts owing at that Presidency on the 1st of Novr it appears that they amounted at that Time to the enormous Sum of two hundred and fifty seven Lacs of Rupees, without including Arrears due to the late Army while under General Mathews, or the Balance of Mr Commissary Ravencrofts Accounts not then delivered in.

9 This Estimate does carry with it indeed the strongest Conviction of the Distresses at Bombay, from which We have the best Intention, and we wish We had the Power also to relieve it but the present Exigencies of your Government of Bengal are too heavy and too urgent not to occupy our first Consideration We have therefore been content with expressing our Hope to your Servants at Bombay that the five Lacs which we have remitted to them from Lucnow, and the Resources of their own Presidency will answer the immediate purposes of satisfying their Troops and the other indispensable Calls upon their Treasure until it shall be in our Power to make them a further Remittance

10. On the 26th of last Month the Governor General laid before Us the following Papers

Extracts of Letters from Lieut Anderson, dated 15th, 16th, 18th, and 22nd Novr

Letter from Lieut Anderson dated 25th of November 1784

Copy of a Letter from the Gov General to Lieut Anderson dated 10th Decr

Letter from Lieut Anderson dated 2nd December

Translation of a Letter from the Honble the Gov General to his Highness the Prince Jehandar Shah, dispatched on 19th November

Do of Do from Do to Do dispatched 13th December

Do of Do from the Prince Jehandar Shah to the Honble the Governor General received 12th Decr

Do of Do from Do to Do received 14th Decr

Translations of Letters from his Highness the Nabob Vizier Hyder Beg Khan to the Honble the Governor General received 23rd Decr

Do of two Letters from his Majesty to the Prince Jehandar Shah

Do of a Letter from Mahajee Sindia to the Prince Jehandar Shah

11. We have the Honor to refer You to our Proceedings for the

appealed in the Introduction of this Minute The same assurance I gave also to his Ministers I soon after departed leaving my Secretary Major Palmer as my personal Representative and Agent with the Nabob Vizier both for the Encouragement of the Nabob Vizier and his Ministers and for the means of urging them to the faithful Discharge of their stipulated Payments And Mr Wombwell the proper Officer in Charge of the Receipts

In Conformity to the above Engagements I now make it my earnest Request to the Board that they will be pleased to record their Resolution to abide by the Arrangements which I have made and to notify the same for the Satisfaction and Assurance of the Nabob Vizier and his Ministers by an Official Letter to the Nabob Vizier from my Eventual Successor with a promise that no Deviation shall be made from the said Arrangements, nor any Person deputed to reside at his Court but at his own Spontaneous Inclination or any Authority exercised within the Limits of the Dominions by the Appointment or Permission of the Board except such as shall be required by the Nabob himself from the Military Officers stationed for his Defence and the Protection of his Court until the Conclusion of the present Fesselloo Year, or until the Orders of the Court of Directors shall be received in Consequence of the References which have been made to them if such orders shall either enjoin or Authorize a different Conduct

I presume that this Requisition is consonant with the Strictness of legal Propriety as the first Delegation of the Trust made to me in Decr 1783 extends in its full Force as a reciprocal Obligation to the Period which I have prescribed and as the Act of a Majority of the Board, which followed it from its legal Obligation on the whole necessarily includes and involves every Engagement contracted under it and conformable to it with the same Force of an equal and permanent Obligation.

Before I conclude I desire to obviate every possible Misconception of my Object in the Requisition which I have made. I do not desire the Board nor the Members of it individually to approve what I have done I only desire them to ratify what I have done under a constitutional and legal Authority by their constitutional and legal Acquiescence and Confirmation of it knowing that without it the Nabob Vizier and his Ministers, who are ignorant of the Powers of the Board and of the Principles which give Stability to its decided Acts will conclude that all the Engagements contracted with them by the only ostensible Member of our Government with whom by the Terms of it they are connected will be dissolved on his Removal from it. I make the proposal with an anxiety natural to the Importance of its Issue in the Hope that it will prove the last Act in my Public Life and the last Test which I shall exact from the Board of that Spirit of mutual Conciliation which no Difference has yet been able wholly to extinguish, and which it is my most earnest Wish to preserve whether we are to be still longer united in the same Service or whether we are to part in our public Capacities for ever

Mr. Macpherson and Mr Stables. Recorded 13th Jany 1785

We have considered the very important and solemn Proposition which the Governor General has made to the Board The very earnest Manner in which he has called upon Us and his Colleagues in the Administration, and the great anxiety which he has expressed for the Issue of Our Determination oblige us to confine Our Sentiments on the present Occasion to a clear and explicit Answer, to the Question which he has been pleased to propose

The Question itself, as a Proposition for our adoption is stated in full and clear Terms, nor need we repeat the Words It is a proposition founded upon Specific Acts of this Government which have also taken Place, and as Members of the Government We have already committed our Sanction in it's favor by those legal Obligations which bind every Member of the Administration to the Acts of a decided Majority, and that constitutional acquiescence in the Arrangements concluded between the Governor General and the Nabob Vizier and his Ministers, and to which our Ratification is required on the liberal Principle which the Governor General has specified

We are sensible of the just and public Grounds upon which it is proper and necessary that the Nabob Vizier should be assured that Arrangements concluded with him for the discharge of his Debt to the Company, and the future Regulation and Encrease of his Revenues should remain permanent and binding upon the Company's Representatives independent of the Continuance in Office of the Governor General of the Time, who had the delegated Powers of the Government to conclude those Arrangements We are therefore willing and ready to adopt the Mode which the Governor General has proposed for relieving the mind of the Vizier as well as his Ministers from all Apprehension or uneasiness upon the Subject

We are confident at the same Time, that the Governor General will of his own Accord use his utmost influence to convince the Vizier and his Ministers of the Necessity of a punctual Performance of their Engagements, so as to preclude this Government from all Interference in the Control and Administration of his Excellency's Revenues Having acceded, in so explicit a manner, to the Governor General's Proposal, and having pledged our Support of Arrangements, for the successful Issue of which to the Public it is natural for the Governor General to carry an anxiety beyond the Period he may wish to prescribe to his own Administration in this Country, We further beg leave to assure him that whether we are to be longer united with him in the Public Service, or are soon to separate, it is our earnest wish to preserve unextinguished and improve that Spirit of Conciliation which is equally dictated by our Sense of Public Duty and our Personal Respect for the Governor General

signed J Macpherson/
J Stables

14 We enclose a Number in this Dispatch a Minnte that has been delivered by the Governor General in respect to the Detachment of your Troops under the Command of Sir John Cumming

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15 The Proposition stated in it was that if it should be the Board's Resolution on the arrival of the Fox which it has been supposed may contain some Orders respecting the Force to be kept in the Provinces dependent on the Nabob of Owd to retain the Detachment now commanded by Col Sir John Cumming in its present Station at Fnttyghur or in any other Part of the Nabob's Dominions the Payment of its Expences should not be demanded from the Nabob Vizier during the course of this Year but the Subject be generally referred to your Honble Court and a due Time allowed for your Answer and Decision thereon to be received for the Regulation of that Claim.

16 Your Governor General acquainted Us that he was more anxious to receive the Determination of the Board on this Question because he conceived it to be immediately connected with the Object of his Minnte of the 4th Inst and he observed that if the Charge of the Detachment which has been estimated at 22 Lacs and an half but which will more probably amount to twenty five Lacs should be exacted from the Nabob Vizier in the Course of the present Year it would not only be a Breach of the Engagements made with him by the Governor General but exceed by the Amount whatever it may be his ability to pay it and the Demand would produce the Effect of a total Abolition of the Engagements now subsisting with his Excellency

17 The Governor General informed Us that the Nabob Vizier had provided 5 Battallions of Sepoys to replace Col Cumming's Detachment that these had been lately completed and properly equipped for that Service under the direction of a very able Officer Captain Frith whom the Governor General had left with the Nabob for that purpose and to attend on the Prince with whom these Troops are at present stationed as his Guard and that they were to escort the Prince as far as Futtighur their destined Station but no further as the Nabob could not provide Funds for raising an equivalent Recruit to supply their Place

18 But the Governor General observed that if it should be the decided opinion of the Board that the Futtighur Detachment should be continued in its Station another Year it would afford a considerable saving to the Nabob Vizier to apprize him of it that he might disband the Corps which he has appointed for its Relief and that what was a saving to the Nabob would be eventually an Aid to the Company

19 We are all of Opinion that the Sum agreed between the Governor General and the Nabob Vizier to be discharged within the present Fussilee Year was all that could be exacted from his Excellency within that Period We have resolved in Conformity to the Governor General's Opinion that it shall be left to the Determination of your Honble Court whether the Company or the Vizier shall be charged with the Expence of

the Detachment now Commanded by Sir John Cumming, and we accordingly request your Orders on this Subject, and it has been further agreed that the Vizier should be informed that the Expence of his new Levies, is an unnecessary Expence, and that Sir John Cumming's Detachment will, while it remains in his Excellency's Dominions, render that Corps needless

20 Major Martin Gilpin, and John Lumsdane, having solicited our Sanction to a Monthly Allowance, which appeared to have been agreed to by the Minister of the Nabob Vizier in lieu of contingent Charges while they were detached on his Excellency's Service, We directed the Committee of Accounts to pass the Bills of these Officers agreeably to the Vouchers for them, and We have ordered your Accomptant at Lucnow to mention the Circumstances to the Vizier and to ascertain whether he has any Objection to the Amount of the Bills being placed to his Excellency's Debt in his Account with the Company

21. We have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Accomptant at Lucnow has in Conformity to our Instructions remitted the following Sums to this Presidency and to Bombay in Bills of Exchange on Account the Kists due from the Vizier for the Month of Poos

Remitted to Calcutta	.	.	Sa Rs 10,00,000
Do to Bombay	..	..	5,00,000
			<hr/>
			15,00,000

22 The Governor General has acquainted Us that before he left Lucnow Mr F B Thomas had requested Permission to resign the Appointment of Surgeon to the Vizier and to the Establishment of your Servants at that Place, that his Excellency had been pleased at the Governor's Recommendation, to nominate Mr Wm. Blaine as Surgeon attending on his Person, and that Mr Blaine was directed to execute the Office of Surgeon to the Station at Lucnow in the Room of Mr. Thomas until Our pleasure should be known The Governor General has recommended to Us the Confirmation of this last Appointment, and that Mr Patrick Cockrane may be appointed Surgeon to the Presidency of Mahajee Sindia in the Room of Mr Blaine, both which We have agreed to.

23. Your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George having been pleased to express dissatisfaction at the Permission which We had granted to Sir John Burgoyne to draw on us for the purchase of 150 Horses to complete the 23rd Regiment of light Dragoons at a fixed Amount, and having refused to interfere in any Manner in the Transaction, altho' our Aids to that Regiment were and could be intended only for the Service of their Presidency, and Sir John Burgoyne having informed Us that his Bills on Bengal could not be discounted at less than 27 Per Cent We found ourselves under the Necessity of requesting on the 20th of last Month that he would desist from any Purchases not made on the Receipt of these Instructions.

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28 Dec. 1784

24 We have the pleasure to acquaint You that the Detachment of Your Troops lately serving in the Carnatic under the Command of Colonel Pearse arrived at Midnapore on the 31st Ulto and at Giretty on the 15th Instant.

25 The Governor General has informed Us that whilst he was at Benares a Vakeel of the Nobob Nizam Ally Khan brought him Letters of Introduction from Mahajee Sindia and was presented to him by Bhow Buckshey that it appeared that the Vakeel had been deputed from Hydrabad before Mr Johnson's arrival there and had been sent to Mahajee Sindia under the Supposition that Mr David Anderson was still with that Prince, and with a View of effecting thro' that Channel an Adjustment of the Matters still unsettled between the Company and the Nizam relative to the Revenues that are due on account of the Circars. The Governor General was unwilling to enter into any Discussion of these Subjects under the Mediation of the Marattas with the Vakeel who had brought no Letters from his Master to this Government but considering the respectable Channel thro' which he was introduced and the Footing in which Mahajee Sindia is placed with respect to the Company and the Nazim by the Maratta Treaty he thought it necessary to receive the Vakeel with Attention and dismiss him with an Assurance that Mr Johnson who has been deputed by the English Government as an Ambassador to his Master would hear every thing that he might have to propose and that we should on our part adhere most strictly to the Principles of Friendship and good Faith

26. The Governor General laid before Us Copies of the Letters that had passed between him and Mahajee Sindia on this Occasion and We transmitted them to Mr Johnson with an Account of the Circumstances that related to them desiring that he would satisfy Nizam Ally Khan in respect to the Attention that was paid by Sindia to his Wishes and the Governor General's Reception of the Vakeel

27 We had the Honor to communicate to You in our Advice of the 8th Ulto two Letters which we had received from your Resident at Hydrabad bearing Date the 30th October and 15th November the last of which submitted to us the Heads of a Plan for a Negotiation with the Nizam's Court as Subahdar of the Dekhan with a view to a final Treaty with that Nobob and the English to be secured by a real intimate and permanent junction of Interests] to the Exclusion of those Foreign and inimical Combinations which then appeared to form the Basis of the Politics of that Court. We had the Honor also to acquaint you that the Subjects of Mr Johnson's Letters² were of Importance and that We proposed to take them into our serious Consideration at our next Meeting

28. We did so but on a mature Consideration of the Propositions that were submitted to Us in Mr Johnson's Letter of the 15th November we were unwilling to hazard a Decision at that Time upon a Question of such Magnitude, and tending to such possible Consequences because we

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were in daily Expectation of Advices from our Superiors, which might announce to us some Change in the system hitherto followed by the Company, and we would not by any Act not absolutely and immediately pressing involve the Execution of it in any possible Difficulty or Trouble Nor were at that Time the Propositions more than general , Tho' specific Terms were proposed

29 We have the Honor to transmit to you a Copy of our Letter to Mr Johnson a Number in the Packet, and to recommend it to your Attention, since it contains other Matters also that appear to be very deserving of it Indeed we thought it so necessary that Mr Johnson should receive this Letter as soon as possible, and as we were also to transmit to him some Dispatches that had been received from the Secret Committee of your Honble Court under Date the 9th Sept 1783, which from their Secrecy and Importance could not be hazarded by the common Post, that we gave Orders for your Ship Besborough, which was laden and ready to sail for Europe, to touch at Masulipatam, and that the Commander should take these Packets under his special Charge

30 Since that Time the Questions we have alluded to in a pieceeding Paragraph have been brought in a more pointed, important and detailed Form before Us by your Resident at Hydrabad who has transmitted to Us the Heads of a Treaty for a perpetual Alliance Offensive and Defensive between the Company and the Nabob Nizam Ally Khan, which the Nabob has offered to conclude with this Government The Arguments in favor of such Treaty, as well as those to be used against it, are so ably detailed in Mr Johnson's Letters that we refer them to you without Comment, unable as we are, to add anything in Elucidation or Support of the very accurate Reasoning which they contain They therefore attend You Numbers in this Dispatch

31 We have been urged by Motives similar to those which we have stated to You for not having decided on the general Propositions that were laid before Us in Mr Johnson's Letters forwarded to You by the Surprize, in not determining at once on those now mentioned, and, however Advantageous We might deem the Treaty now offered, as well from a due Consideration of the present Circumstances of your Affairs as from the general Principles on which a Surrender of the Circars might be agreed to as described in Mr Johnson's Arguments, we knew not how far your Opinions might correspond with our Own, and we could not immediately judge how far the Alliance in Question might Affect our Relative Situation to Mahajee Sindia, whose Confidence and Friendship We have desired to preserve ever since the Conclusion of the Treaty of Salbey

32 We have therefore directed Lieut Anderson to take the most guarded means of ascertaining whether and to what Degree the Alliance proposed with Nizam Ally Khan would meet the Sentiments of Mahajee Sindia, or rather if such an Alliance, were it entered into, would give Offence to that Prince or vary his Disposition to continue in Friendship

with the Company for we do not imagine that if the Treaty were detailed and he acquainted with all its Parts, were formally desired to give his Opinion upon it he would hesitate in throwing some Obstructions in the way of it, since the Execution of it would certainly diminish the Influence which he has acquired in Indostan from the Circumstances that have given rise to his Connexion with the Company and it would materially affect the Object which his Ambition leads him to aspire to of being the sole Channel of Correspondence between the English and Maratta State.

33 We at the same time directed Mr Johnson rather to encourage Nizam Ally Khan in the Expectation that such a Treaty may be effected tho' not immediately to continue his Negotiation even to preparing the Draft of it and to discover to an undeniable Certainty how far and at what Periods it will be in the Power of his Highness to substantiate his Engagements and make the Payments that he offers to the Company He is ordered also to signify to the Nazim that We are in Expectation of general Instructions from our Superiors which We desire to receive before We conclude the Treaty in Question as We wish every possible Obstacle to its Duration to be done away as far as any that is material can be foreseen That We have already referred the Consideration of it to You and that in Fact no Time can be lost in waiting for your Answer which will be given to Us with the Knowledge and Consent of our Sovereign and his Ministers since it is his Highness's own Desire that the Treaty should be ratified in England by the approbation of the highest Authority that can be annexed to it and it would be in vain and might not correspond with the great and lasting purposes of it or with the Sentiments of Respect which We entertain for His Highness, to conclude the Treaty here until We shall be acquainted with the Resolutions of that high Authority respecting it Mr Johnson is also to assure Nizam Ally Khan that he shall have the earliest Information of your Answer to the Propositions now submitted to your Judgement Relative to the important Subject of the Alliance proposed by Nizam Ally and the Conditions he offers to the Company your Honble. Court may be assured that we shall act with the most deliberate Caution and with the most guarded Determination to secure the general Peace of all your Presidencies.

34 We shall do ourselves the Honor of transmitting to you by the Barrington an Essay that has been laid before Us by Mr James Grant your late Resident at Hyderabad and is entitled a Political Survey of the Northern Circars. We know Mr Grant's abilities to be of the first Class and altho' our other Engagements have not yet afforded Us leisure to peruse the work and we are therefore unable to judge in what manner he has treated the Subjects of it they appear to Us on a general View of them to be of so interesting a Nature that it should not be withheld from your earliest Notice

35 Your Resident at Bussora has addressed Us under Date the 22nd April a Date probably affixed to it by Mistake instead of the 22nd August and acquainted Us that in a Letter from Sir Robert Ainslie his

Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte dated 13th June he writes as follows." "It seems some Secret Expedition and Plans are in Meditation here for the purpose of encreasing the French Power in India, and it is expected that the attempts will be continued to secure an Influence with the Turks and Arabs in your Quarter. I think proper to give you this Intelligence and beg your Attention to a Circumstance which is accounted of great Moment "

36 On our parts nothing shall be left undone that We can effect to secure the Tranquility of India and to frustrate any hostile Views of the French Court It cannot be necessary to say more

The State of your Treasuries is as follows

State of the Treasuries 14th Jany. 1785

Ready Money

General Treasury	45969 9.10
Khalsah	40127 10 6

86097 4 4

Bills Receivable S Rs.

General Treasury	1979396 8 11	
Khalsah	223003 5 6	374683.14.-

2670783 14 -

Mint

Genl Treasury
Khalsah
Unsorted Treasure

Valued at 10 Pr Cent
better than Ct Rs

2756881 2 4

Balance Account deposits	935596. 6 8
Do Accomptant General to the Mayors Court	120161 13 9
Do of the old Bonded Debt on which the Interest has ceased by publc Adver- tisement	45117 - 8
New Bonded Debt at 8 Pr Cent	16669607 12.11
11 Pr Cent Remittance Loan	1696680.- -
Annuities	

19467163 2 -

Fort William,
17th January 1785
[Per Berrington]

We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful Humble Servants,
Warren Hastings/John Macpherson/
John Stables.

LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Principles and measures of retrenchment and reduction of expenses in civil and military establishments

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

1 We had the Honor to acquaint you in our Advices from the Secret Department by the Danish Ship Copenhagen that we had resolved to renew our Investigation of the Establishments in the different Offices of your Government for the purpose of effecting a Reduction of Expence and we repeated the same assurance in our Letter of the 13th of last November This indeed was grounded as well on the necessity that existed under the actual Situation of your Affairs for extending our Retrenchments of Expence both in the Civil and Military Branches of your Service as far as Prudence would allow as on the solemn Call that you were pleased to make on us in your Orders of the 16 March 1784 to verify the Estimates which you had submitted to Parliament and to diminish our Expences to the utmost Limits of Prudence and Justice.

2 You have left the Detail of this Operation to Our Discretion and you have invested us with the fullest Powers to accomplish what you have most earnestly prescribed

3 We shall not complain that the whole Burthen is thrown upon this Government and that your Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay far from being able to assist us in diminishing its Weight are an Additional Tax upon our Resources and we presume that your Honble Court when you published the Estimates which We are required to make good were not aware of the increase in the Sums annually remitted to those Settlements the Amount of which had it been applied to the Disbursements of your Government of Bengal would in a short time have released our Finances from all Incumbrances and enabled us to send home Investments as large as ever

4 Whatever Reluctance we have felt in diminishing the Salaries and Expectations of Individuals many of whom from Merit and long Services are entitled to the most liberal Recompense We could neither resist an Appeal formed upon the Basis of the Company's Existence nor the real necessity for an immediate Retrenchment

5 To waive the motives of personal Regard and private Friendship is the greatest Tax upon the Sensibility of the Mind but the Task imposed on us by your Injunctions and your Interests have compelled us to

suppress these Considerations, and to unite in the prosecution of a Plan of Retrenchment and Reform by which the Sacred Pledge of your Credit was to be redeemed

6 Two principal Objects claimed our Attention in this Work, the Interest of the Public and the Situation of Individuals, the former was to be consulted by reducing the Expences of every Department, without Favor or Partiality within the Strictest Limits of Oeconomy, and the latter suggested the necessity of providing for the Interests of those who might suffer by our Arrangements

7 With a view to these Considerations we have agreed in the necessity of the following Resolutions and passed them

1st That a Reduction of Expences be made and extend as far as possible to every Department, allowing nevertheless to each a fair Recompence for their Labours

2ndly That all Offices that can be dispensed with be abolished, and that no more officers be employed in any Office than Necessity requires

3dly That the Salaries of all Offices be as nearly as possible proportioned to the Duties, and Responsibility annexed to each

4thly That such Persons as may be removed from their Offices, in Consequence of these Regulations, be nominated for Succession to such offices as may become vacant in future, according to their Rank in the Service and their Respective Merits

5thly That a decent subsistence be allowed for the servants who may be removed from their Offices, whether by their Abolition or partial Reduction, according to a table of allowances to be drawn out in proportion to their respective Ranks

6thly That Permission be granted to such of the Company's Servants as may be willing to avail themselves of it, whether such as are removed from their present Offices or others who may be continued in their's upon a reduced Establishment, to return to England with an allowance of half the allotted Salaries payable in Bengal and without forfeiture of the Service

We shall take Care to prevent misapplications of the Election allowed by this Regulation.

8 Our last Resolution was to recommend it very particularly to your Honourable Court to appoint no more Writers or Cadets before the year 1787, and we earnestly solicit your Attention to this Request

9. These promises having been Established some particular Instances immediately occurred to Us in which Retrenchments might be made either by the abolition of Offices, or the Reduction of Salaries. A more complete state of Retrenchments will be hereafter before Us, prepared with the Assistance of your Subordinate Officers, and we shall prosecute the Work that has been already commenced

10 The Committee of Revenue and Collectors forming the most considerable Office under your Government naturally attracted an Attention in the first Instance. When We considered the Degree of Labor and

Responsibility annexed to the Committee, their Opportunities to enrich themselves at the Public Expence and the Restrictions imposed upon them, we were far from thinking their Salaries immoderate. In conformity to the principles laid down for our Guidance it was nevertheless necessary to order a Reduction * The Salaries of the Committee arise from a Commission upon the net Collections, They draw one per Cent upon the net Collections in general and an additional sum upon that part of the Collections made Huzzoory or under their own immediate Control. This Distinction was Established with a View to induce the Committee to bring all the Revenues under their own immediate Management, and we wish the Principle to be still adhered to But we have resolved that the percentage given to the Committee should be so reduced as to allow the President of it to draw a Sum not exceeding sixty thousand Rupees and each of the Subordinate Members a Sum not exceeding fifty thousand Rupees per Annum. We have left the calculation to the Committee themselves to form and to submit to us, and the saving of Expence by this Reduction will amount we believe to at least one Lack of Rupees per Annum upon their present allowances

11 Having examined the Establishments dependant on the Committee of Revenue we conceived that very considerable Retrenchment might be made in them These we have left to be performed by the Committee themselves, to whom our Strictest Injunctions have been conveyed to reduce as far as possible the Expences of the Offices and the Salaries of the Officers both European and native dependant on them without loss of time and to abolish all Establishments that are not absolutely and essentially necessary under the Penalty of our Displeasure upon any Inattention to our orders in this Respect.

12 The Accountant General and some other Officers are paid in the same manner as the Committee from Commission upon the net Collections and the Salaries of all Officers in this Predicament are to be regulated by the Rule laid down for reducing the Salaries of the Committee.

13 One part of the Plan proposed by the Institution of the Committee of Revenue and indeed a fundamental Principle of the Institution itself was to withdraw the Collectors and such as were permitted to remain after the Establishment of the Committee were declared to be temporary Residents only Yet it has happened that not only the Collectors who were not removed at the time have remained but that others have crept in. Necessity now calls upon Us to revert to the fundamental Principles of the Committee's Institution and to carry them into Effect. For this purpose the Attention of the Board was drawn to those Collectorships that might be immediately abolished

14 In that part of the Province of Beyhar formerly under the Jurisdiction of the Council there are at present five Collectors We have resolved on the reduction of two and that the lands on the Southern Side of the River be placed under the Authority of the Chief at Patna and Mr Law excepting always such districts as the Committee may think it

expedient to take under their own Management, and that the Districts to the Northward of the River be placed under one authority vizt Mr Graeme's.

15. It will remain with the Committee to specify the Limits of the respective Jurisdictions of the remaining Collectors and to submit them to our approbation

16 The Reasons that have induced us to exempt Mr Law are as follows, The Pilgrimages to Guyah¹ are become an Object of great Political Importance, and the Encouragement of them deserving our serious Attention They alone require the Care and Inspection of a Servant of the Company, and should not be entrusted to any Native This Consideration was of itself sufficient to require the Continuance of Mr Law, though other reasons might be mentioned, as well as those derived from the Nature and Situation of the Districts over which he now presides, as because his Talents are peculiarly adapted to promote the Objects consigned to his charge

17 The Collectorships of Futtehsing and Hooghly appeared to us totally unnecessary, as the Vicinity of these Districts to Calcutta suggested the Propriety of placing them immediately under the Committee of Revenue The same reason applied to the Office of Commissioner of Burdwan and Collector of Pachete, the Expences of the latter Establishment absorbing also the Revenues under charge of the Collector We have resolved therefore on the Abolition of all these Offices, as well as of the Residency at Jelasore, the Duties of which will be performed by the Committee of Revenue, An occasional Deputation may be made for the Adjustment of any Disputes that may arise between the Borderers of the two Provinces.

18 The Districts under the Collector of Silberris were formerly superintended by the Council at Moorshedabad, and we have therefore agreed that they be placed under the Chief of that Station and that the Establishment of the Collector be withdrawn

19 These Abolitions in your Revenue Department are not the only Abolitions that may be made The rest will come under our further Consideration and Revisal

20 Our orders to the Committee to reduce the Expences of the Departments under their Authority are to be understood to extend to all the Collectorships which for the present are allowed to remain

21 We were of Opinion that the number of Adawlets might be reduced without Impediment or Inconvenience to the Administration of Justice, but, from an Inspection of their Situation, we agreed only on the Abolition of three of these Establishments which might be dispensed with, and the Powers belonging to each transferred to other Jurisdictions Those alluded to are Stationed at Rajehaut, Sultanoee, and Meissey in the Beyha Province The Jurisdiction of the Adawlets at Rajehaut is to be divided between the Judges of Moorshedabad and Burdwan, that of Sultanoee between the Collector of Sylhet, and Judge of the Dacca Adawlet, and the Adawlet of Durbunga will absorb the powers annexed to that of Meissey

The Fouzedarry Jurisdiction, and Establishment appertaining to each of the Adawlets will fall of Course.

22 It is with Concern that We have been obliged to make any reduction of Expences in the Salt Department, since you have derived so large an Accession to your Revenues from the labor attention and good Management of Mr Vansittart the Comptroller and the Gentlemen who have had Charge of the inferior and executive Departments from the commencement of this Office under his Authority The Estimate by which their Commission was originally settled was moderate, and if the Amount may now be deemed large, it should be remembered that it arises from an Increase in the Profit of this Branch of Revenue which we believe that you would never have expected and which is entirely derived from their Labours. But the Principles laid down did not admit this Consideration to prevent the proposed Reform altho we were obliged to allow some weight to it.

23 We have therefore resolved that the present Commission of ten per Cent upon the Net Profits of the Salt which is divided between the Comptroller and Agents be reduced to five per Cent and to take into Consideration the Claims of the Original Officers who have been employed from the Commencement of this Institution and order a Reward to their Services in having been the means of increasing the Fund

24. The Deputies to the Salt Agents being unnecessary Officers we have reduced them and called them to the Presidency or admitting their Services not to be without Utility the Regularity with which the Business of the Salt Department is conducted allows a Dispensation with them

25 In the Detail of the Establishments annexed to the Salt Department there are probably some charges that can be reduced and we have recommended to Mr Vansittart to revise the Expences and reduce them as far as possible

26. The next Department that occurred to our Notice was that of the Board of Customs Whatever Revenues might be derived to your Treasury from this Establishment the charges attending it could not but be deemed a heavy Deduction from their Amount and they exceeded our expectation or Intentions. We have therefore resolved that the Board of Customs should be entirely annihilated and that the President should take Charge of the Business with an allowance for two Assistants.

27 It did not appear to us that the number of the Collectors of the Customs could be diminished excepting in one Instance Vizt. the Establishment at Chowwar which for other Reasons as well as to save Expence we have agreed shall be abolished as there is an Office of Customs at Patna there could not be the least Necessity for the Continuance of that at Chowwar

28 We have directed that a particular Statement of the Pachoutra and Shahbunder Collections be laid before us specifying the names of the several Officers employed in these Departments and the nature and Extent of their Jurisdictions the Articles upon which and the Rates by which their Collections are made.

29 The objects proposed in the Establishment of the Committee of Grain have now been answered, and the necessity that dictated the Establishment in its present extent no longer exists. We have the satisfaction of knowing from the Governor General, who acquainted us from undoubted Authority, that the Natives in General acknowledged with Gratitude the Obligations they owe to this Government for their timely and effectual interposition to save them from the dreadful effects of a Famine, and that the Establishment of the Committee has contributed to rescue many thousands probably from misery and destruction. We could not but feel the most sensible pleasure in contemplating the beneficial effects of this institution, and as the same necessity which required its formation might again exist, as an Office of this kind could only act with advantage and efficacy from experience, and as that experience could only result from a constant and permanent Operation, we resolved that a partial abolition should be made of this Office, being convinced that your Honourable Court must approve the continuance of an Establishment that had for its object the preservation of the lives of your Subjects. We have resolved therefore that the Establishment of the Committee be abolished, but that the President of it do still remain invested with the same powers and Control that the Committee now exercise, and under such further regulations as we may hereafter deem necessary, to assist him in discharging the Duties of his Office one Assistant and one monthly writer will be sufficient.

30 The charges of Poolbundy or repairing the Embankments of the River are considerable. Some of these Works are performed by Contract, and some by Estimate. We have resolved that these expences be particularly recommended to the Revision of the Committee, and that in all instances where it can be done the Repairs be performed by the Zemindars in order to reduce the Establishments of Superintendants. If an Officer of Inspection should be necessary it may be occasionally undertaken. We shall hereafter determine the Reductions in this Department on the Committee's Report.

31 Many of the servants of the Company are allowed Pensions in Consequence of their removal from their Offices on the Appointment of the Committee of Revenue. The abolition of these Pensions will be the result of our present Resolutions, and the Pensioners will be entitled to receive allowances according to the Table of Salaries annexed.

32 It has been the usage of this Government to grant to such of Your Servants as were willing to Apply themselves to the Study of the Persian language an allowance for Masters, as an Encouragement to them. We have resolved that this indulgence should be allowed to Servants only under the rank of Factors, and that Masters to all others be abolished.

33 We have given Orders that the Establishments immediately depending upon Council, as well as those of the Offices of Compiler of Standing Orders and Persian Translator be laid before us. We do not mean to extend any Retrenchments, that may be necessary in the Office of Persian Translator to Persons who have long served the Company in the Capacity

of Moonshies, or their immediate connections whom length of service entitles to substance. Mr Colebrooke has been directed to explain to us to whom the allowances of his Office are distributed which will enable us to determine on the proposed Reductions.

34. We have resolved on a reduction of the salary of Register to the Sudder Dewanny Adawlet from two thousand five hundred Rupees per month to fifteen hundred Rupees.

35 We could not but remark on the very heavy charge incurred for monthly writers in all the Public Offices and on the Inconvenience arising from employing these persons to perform the Duties of the Servants of the Company We have therefore required from all the Heads of Offices an account of the Establishment of Company's Servants necessary for carrying on the Business of their respective Departments That the principal use of such a report will be to enable us to form a standard Establishment for conducting the business of each Office, and when formed to send it to your Honble. Court with a Recommendation to confirm it by your Sanction and to advert it on any future appointments as a Rule to determine the necessity of them, and to prevent the nomination of a greater number of Servants than the public Duties of each Department may require

36 The injunctions which we have received from your Honourable Court have been communicated to the Board of Trade They have been informed that in all those Departments which are immediately under ourselves we have begun a Plan of Reform on the principles which we have had the honour to explain to you and that we relied on their zeal and regard for your interests to carry this Plan into execution, on the same principles in the different Offices under them and we have desired that they will lay before us as soon as possible an account of the Reductions which they may be able to effect in their own Establishment.

37 With respect to the Marine Department we have resolved as a standing order of Government that no Pilot Sloop be ever employed on any Foreign Service and we have directed the Marine Paymaster to lay before us an account of the expences attending the Equipment of those vessels that have been so employed which will enable us to form a judgement of the charges prevented by this Rule.

38. We have resolved that as a further relief to Government our own salaries and those of the Board of Trade and all Official allowances of your other Covenanted Servants shall be paid one half in Treasury Orders and one half in Specie until the demands upon the Treasury shall be sufficiently reduced to admit the revocation of this order

39 To what extent Reductions will be made in consequence of these Resolutions we cannot at once accurately Judge, but they will probably be much more considerable than may at first occur as not only the salaries of Individuals will be saved by the abolition of unnecessary Offices but the long train of Establishments belonging to them

40 We have the Honor to subjoin a List of the different ranks in your service according to which we have agreed to grant pensions to those of

your Servants who are removed in consequence of our Resolutions, or may not be in Possession of any office,

A Senior Merchant P Month Sa Rs 1,200

Junior Merchant .. Ditto 800

Factor Ditto 500

41 We now proceed to acquaint you with our Reform in your Military Service

42 We have resolved that the whole Sepoy Establishment at present formed into three Brigades consisting of thirty five Regiments independent of the Ramgai Light Infantry and the Chittagong Corps, be reduced to Thirty Regiments, that the Artificers and Labourers attached to the Troops without the Provinces be kept on the War Establishment, and those attached to the Troops within the Provinces, on the lowest Peace Establishment, and that every Staff Appointment constituted since the 1st January 1776, be annulled, but as this Part of the Reform is not meant to be final, We have directed the Commander in Chief, if he shall find it necessary to recommend the Re-Establishment of any such reduced Staff, to assign his reasons for so doing, and describe with the minutest Detail all the Duties required to be performed by them

43 We have resolved that when the Commander in Chief shall have completed the Establishment enjoined by our present resolutions from the Officers in the several Ranks who now compose the general List of the Army, including the Corps of Surgeons, an Option be allowed to the Junior Classes of Supernumerary Officers and Surgeons of each Rank, and to all other Officers and Surgeons of the Army to continue in the Service or return to Europe without prejudice to their Rank, on half pay if they prefer the Same in England or on full pay if they would prefer the same in Bengal

44 Their leave of absence is to continue for three Years from their Arrival in England, on the condition of their returning to the Service at the expiration of that Period, or sooner if they are called upon so to do by your Hon'ble Court Officers availing themselves of the Liberty thus granted to them to return home are to notify to you the Day of their Arrival, and if not required to return before the Expiration of three Years after that Day, they are to signify to you in due time their intention whether it be to remain in England or return to Bengal and in failure thereof, they are to lose all pretensions to the Service

45 In passing this Resolution we have reserved to ourselves the Power of preventing any Officer from availing himself of it, who is not ready to declare upon Oath that his Fortune does not exceed the specified Sum described in the Regulations for the late Lord Clive's Military Fund, as sufficient to preclude the Enjoyment of that Bounty

46 All Officers desirous of returning to England under these Conditions during the present Season are to signify the same to the Commander in Chief before the 1st of April and those who may wish to return under the same Conditions next Season, are to notify the same to him two months before the Period of their intended Embarkation

47 We have Resolved to disband all the Sebundy Corps within the Provinces and in order to secure the Collection of the Revenues and maintain the Peace of the Country four Brigade Regiments are to be Stationed at Bogga Rungpour Dacca and Midnapour These Regiments will be kept in constant movement but never Divided into Parties of less than the Command of an European Officer They are to be relieved twice in the Year from their respective Brigades Vizt in the months of April and November to be kept in the Field during the above Period and to form a constant Interchange of reliefs between their respective Posts.

48 The nature of the Ramgur Frontier and the remoteness of Chittagong from any Brigade Station have induced us to continue the Regiment of Ramgur Light Infantry and the independant Regiment at Chittagong on their present footing for the Protection of these Provinces and the Latter Cause has also influenced us in Resolving that an Additional Battalion of 300 Light Infantry shall be formed from the disbanded Corps of the Army for the Protection of the Province of Silhet

49 As the inferior Services of the Departments under the Management of the Board of Trade and Committee of Revenue may occasionally require other aids than those which have been provided for by our present Resolutions we have desired them to give in to us an account of the numbers of Peons and Pikes that they will absolutely and indispeusably want and an Estimate of the Expencc thereof rated at the least possible Charge Such Peons and Pikes are to be selected from the reduced Sebundies, and are to wear a Badgo to distinguish them from others on private Service

50 We have resolved that the provision now in Force for the Native Warrant Officers and others of the Brigade Corps that have been lately reduced be extended also to the Brigade Corps that are ordered to be reduced by our present Reform and to such of the Officers of the reduced Sebundy Corps as have formerly served in the Brigade Corps and been transferred on account of Sickness or Wounds to the Sebundy unless these Officers should desire in Lieu thereof to accept a Gratuity of three months full Pay and Batta of the Stations to which they now respectively belong and with it a final Discharge from the Service in which Case the same are to be granted them.

51 All vacancies that may occur in future in the native Corps yet maintained are to be supplied from the Native Officers of the Disbanded Brigade Regiments and the Commander in Chief has been required to establish the most impartial mode of draughting them with this only Exception that the Native Warrant and Non Warrant Officers of the Several Regiments that served in the Malva Campaign are to have a priority of Admission

52 None of the Regiments or Native Staff Officers that have been on Foreign Service in the Course of the late War are to fall under the reduction now ordered and the Commander in Chief has been desired to furnish us regularly with the monthly Returns and Casualty Lists of all the Supernumerary Warrant and Non Warrant reformed Officers of the several reduced Regiments

53 We have resolved that the present Bounty allowed for Recruits from the King's Service be increased to that given to the Company's vizt 40 SRs to each man for three years, but that this resolution be not published but Communicated to the Recruiting Officers thro' the Commander in Chief in order that they may avail themselves of it before the Men shall embark for Europe, after having received their Orders for doing so. We conceive that this indulgence, being for the General Good of the Service, is strictly consistent with the Prohibitions contained in his Majesty's Orders

54. The Resolutions both Civil and Military which we have had the honor of communicating to you are to take Effect from the 1st Day of next March and the Military Paymaster General has been directed to prepare for our Inspection a comparative Statement of the present Expende of the Army on its actual Establishment and of the expences of the Army under the New Reductions As the great Sources however of Military Expences are in Elephants, Camels, Bullocks, Hospital Charges, Military Stores, Garrison and Surveying Charges &ca, or in other words, the Extraordinaries of the Army, the Commander in Chief has been requested to furnish us with a statement of the reserve of Elephants and Draught and Carriage Bullocks which he may deem indispensibly requisite to be maintained for the Service of the Troops quartered within the Provinces on a Peace Establishment specifying also the most proper Stations at which they should be kept up

55. The Military Secretary has also been directed to obtain from the Pay Master General and lay before us a peace Establishment of the whole Army and Garrisons in all their Branches, stating the Expende of every nature for one Month

Fort William,
31st January 1785
[Per *Berrington*]

We have Etc

LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY 1785

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs,

We had the honor to address you from this Department on the 17th Instant by your Ship Valentine

Our Letter by that Conveyance has since been forwarded in Duplicate by the Hillsborough and been dispatched in Triplicate also in a seperate Box by the Berrington

We have now the Honor to transmit to you the Broken Sett of our

proceedings on the 13th and 14 Instant with It s Index

We have the Honor to be

Honble Sirs

Your most faithful humble servants

Warren Hastings/John Macpherson/

John Stables.

Fort William

31st January 1785

35

LETTER DATED 3 FEBRUARY 1785

Warren Hastings leaves and Macpherson takes over—Bussy dies and Coutenceau succeeds—cession of Negapatam and dependencies to English

TO the Hon ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon ble Sirs

I We think it necessary to acquaint you that the Hon ble Warren Hastings Esqr your Governor General whose intention to proceed to Europe has already been announced to you took leave of us in Council and left the Presidency on the 1st Instant The Powers of this Government as constituted by Parliament existing legally but in the Governor General and Council and no Act of Government being valid but as it is exercised under that legal and collective authority Mr Macpherson according to the Provisions of the Acts of the 13 and 21st of his present Majesty succeeds to the Office of Governor General and has taken his seat at the Board accordingly But from motives of respect to Mr Hastings we have resolved that the Ceremonial of Mr Macpherson s succession to the Office of Governor General do not take place untill official advice shall have been received that the Berrington Indiaman in which Mr Hastings has taken his passage for England shall have actually proceeded on her Voyage

2 Mr Macpherson has laid before us translations of several letters which Mr Hastings has written to the different states of India announcing to them his resolution of quitting his Government on the 20th of Rubhu ul Awul (or 31st of last month) and Mr Macpherson s consequent succession to the Office of Governor General Mr Macpherson has also laid before us translations of several letters which he himself has written by Mr Hastings s desire to the native Princes of India upon the same Occasion

3 Copies of these Letters appear on our Consultations and will be sent to you by the first dispatch

4 We have directed the Persian translator to attend us at our next meeting and report the state of his Office and lay before us the Books of the Persian Correspondence

5 We have also resolved that in future all letters to the Country



Sir John Macpherson

Powers on political subjects shall be read, and approved in this Department before they are dispatched, and that the Persian translator shall regularly attend with them at our Councils, and lay before us official translations of all letters received from the Country powers, on such Subjects

6. We shall embrace the earliest opportunity of submitting to your Hon'ble Court, an accurate State of your Affairs, on Mr Macpherson's accession to the Government. The details of it are now preparing and we hope that it will be in readiness to attend you, by your Ship Earl of Mansfield

7. We shall have the honor to transmit to you, particular advices in our next dispatch of our proceedings, in the Foreign Department, but we deem it essential to your immediate information, that we should not omit this opportunity of acquainting you that his Excellency the Marquis de Bussy, died suddenly at Pondicherry on the 7th of last month, and that the administration of the Affairs of the French nation in India, has devolved for the present upon M. de Countenceau¹ who has the rank of Brigadier General, and succeeds to Mr Bussy's Station, as the Senior Officer upon the Spot. M. de Countenceau has addressed us, on this Occasion, and assured us, that we shall find him disposed as the late Marquis de Bussy was, to coincide with us, in every thing that may tend, to establish the Harmony, which our respective Sovereigns, had in View in concluding Peace

8. Your Right Hon'ble President, and Select Committee at Fort St George, have since communicated to us a letter, which they had received from M. de Countenceau in which his Excellency acquaints them that he had received our Letter to the Marquis de Bussy of the 23d of November, containing Propositions, for the immediate Execution of the several stipulations in the definitive treaty with France, and his Excellency requested, that your Servants at Fort St George, would fix on the time, and place for this purpose. Your Right Hon'ble President, and Select Committee, have in consequence, assured us, that they should lose no time, in carrying into Effect the Orders they had received from us on this important subject, and which we had the honor to notify to you, in our Letter from the Foreign Department of the 8th Decr last.

9. A Question had suggested itself to your Servants at Fort St. George, in respect to the real meaning of the 4th Article of the Preliminaries with Holland, which stipulates that "the States General of the united provinces, cede, and guaranty in full right to his Britannic Majesty, the town of Negapatam, *with the dependencies thereof*," they acquainted us that all the Dutch factories, on the Coast of Coromandel, have been considered, and denominated dependencies of Negapatam, and they desired our Opinion and Instructions, whether to retain them as such, or whether they were to understand the Expression, as meaning no more, than the lands, and Villages adjoining to and immediately dependent on Negapatam. They afterwards transmitted to us the printed supplement of the Leyden Gazette, of the 2nd July 1784 containing a letter from Messrs Herkenrode and Brantsen, the Dutch Ambassadors, and Plenipotentiaries at Paris, by which

it appears that our Court had not explained itself on this Question

10 Desirous to avoid every Act that could tend to procrastinate the Execution of the late treaties of Peace with France and the States General and anxious not to leave them any new Ground for union or united Complaints against any of your Governments in India we have directed the Right Hon ble President and Select Committee at Fort St George not to insist in the Cession of Negapatam on the constructions that might be put on this part of the 4th Article of the Preliminaries with the States general but to consider it for the present as applying to no more than Negapatam and the lands and Villages adjoining to and immediately dependent on it We have directed them at the same time to agree to such present construction of it under a formal reservation of the rights that Great Britain will derive to the other dependencies of Negapatam as they have been heretofore considered if this wider construction of the 4th Article of the Preliminaries, should have been already determined or should be hereafter determined on by our Court and the republic of Holland

We have the honor to be

Honble Sirs,

Your most faithful humble servants.

Fort William

3rd February 1785

30

LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Retrenchment measures

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs

[1] We had the honor to communicate to you in our Letter of the 31st Ulto which attends you in Duplicate by the Ship now under dispatch the progress which we had made in effecting a Reduction of expence both in the Civil and Military Branches of your Service

[2] We have since devoted as much of our Time as could be spared from the other indispensable Duties of our Stations to the continuation of this necessary work and shall proceed without further preface to inform you of the several Resolutions which we have adopted in consequence

[3] Having understood that the Resolution which we had passed on the 27th Ulto for raising an additional Battalion of 300 Light Infantry from the Disbanded Corps of the Army for the Protection of the Province

of Sylhet would entail on the Compy a considerable expence and be productive of no substantial service we have agreed to rescind it

[4] We have resolved that the Corps at Benares Commanded by Capt. Thomas Hogan that at Buxar under Major Eaton and that at Jellalore under Capt Hamilton shall be reduced on the 1st of the ensuing Month. The Duties of the disbanded Corps at Benares are to be performed by a Battalion to be Detached for that purpose from Chunai, and a suitable Detachment is to be sent from the Midnapour Station to Jellalore

[5] The Native Officers and men of the Body Guard of Infantry under Lt. Polhill are to be made over to the Vizier if his Excellency should chuse to receive them into his pay, the Nabob accounting for the Arms and Stores excepting the Ordnance which is to be delivered into the Magazine at the nearest Station, and if his Excellency should not chuse to receive them, this Corps also is to be reduced on the 1st of March

[6] The Commander in Chief having recommended to us that Dinagepour should be a station for one of the four Regiments that are to be employed in securing the Collections, instead of Rungpour, on account of its more central situation, we have assented to his proposal, and issued the necessary orders upon it

[7] A small Detachment under the Command of a Commissioned Officer will be sent to Rungpour for the protection of that Frontier

[8] One of the Regiments of Sepoys now at Midnapore is ordered to Barrackpore, to assist in performing the Duties at the Presidency, which will be considerably increased by the Reduction of the Sebundy Corps

[9] Having understood that the native Invalid Troops now composed a very considerable Body, and that the greater part was capable of doing Garrison Duty, and might be employed in furnishing Escorts for Military Stores and Treasury proceeding by Water transport, besides furnishing Garrisons to the internal Military stations at Buxar, Patna, Monghier, Muxadavad and the Presidency, the Commander in Chief was requested to take the subject into consideration, and if the proposition should be approved by him, to form a suitable Disposition of the European and Native Invalids We at the same time agreed that the Command of the Military posts of Buxar and Patna should be retained by Majors Eaton and Hardy, that invalid Officers should be appointed to the other Stations, and that the Officers Commanding should conform to the Regulations which were in force for furnishing Escorts by the late Militia and Sebundy Corps

[10] The Measure which we have alluded to, was further proposed because the adoption of it would be attended with no additional charge to what is now actually incurred, and because it would give the means of exonerating the Brigade Corps from the necessity of furnishing Detachments and petty Escorts, and so far forth their Discipline might be otherwise relaxed

[11] The Commander in Chief gave his hearty concurrence to the general proposition for Employing the Native Invalids, but observed that

the number of these Men capable of doing Duty would not be found sufficient for the purposes desired That many of the Duties at present performed by the Sehundy Corps at Patna Moorshedabad and the Presidency were such as to require active Men and that upon an average the Guards employed at each of these places amounted to 300 Sepoys—a number which cannot be supplied by the Invalids were they fit for such service but the Commander in Chief was of opinion that altho they would not serve for Guards where activity was required they might be usefully employed in furnishing Escorts for Military stores and Treasure by Water Transport.

[12.] With respect to the European Invalids the Commander in Chief observed that they were stationed at Chnnar and at the Presidency and could be of no use out of Garrison but he proposed that one of the two Companies now in the Old Fort should be sent to Buxar where he believed there were Quarters for their accomodation Tho General suggested that this European Force would give a respectable appearance to the Garrison and answer in some degree the purpose of the reduced Corps so far as related to the Defence of the place

[13.] Our Resolutions have been Conformable to the General's Opinion and Recommendation and to our own proposition as far as it was not affected by either and the Comdr in Chief has been directed to make a suitable Disposition in consequence of the Invalid Corps

[14.] A sum of Money has already been advanced to pay off two Regiments under orders of Reduction and the Sub Treasurer has assured us that he should be able to provide the amount that will be due for the rest We have given orders to the Resident at Benares to pay off the Corps at that place and at Buxar and means have been taken to discharge the Battalion under Lt Polhill so that we have no reason to apprehend that any impediment will occur to our Resolutions of Reform taking effect at the time proposed

[15.] We have been furnished by the Comd in Chief in consequence of our requisition with a statement of the reserve of Elephants Camels and Draught and Carriage Bullocks which he deemed absolutely necessary to be kept up for the use of the Army both within and without the provinces. These are

Draft and Carriage Bullocks	3291
Elephants	150
Camels	90

The present Establishment	
of Bullocks is	4071
of Elephants	50
and of Camels	112

The reduction which the Commander in Chief thought might with safety be made of each is as follows

Bullocks	753
Elephants	100
Camels	50

but as the Elephants are furnished by contract which will not expire for two Years, he recommended that the Camels now employed under the Agent should be all discharged, and the surplus Elephants distributed in their Room

[16] After having maturely considered the Commander in Chief's proposal, and inspected General orders issued in April 1770 ascertaining the Establishment of Draft Bullocks as [at] that Period, as well as some memorandums which have been laid before us of the Draft and Carriage Bullocks for a Brigade in the Field on a War Establishment, and for two Brigades in the Provinces on a Peace Establishment in 1776, we have resolved that the number of Draft and Carriage Bullocks recommended by the Commander in Chief to be allotted to the Troops without the Provinces should remain so till further orders, Vizt

At Futtu Gur	400	Draft,	328	Carriage	728
Cawnpore	600		500		1100
.. Chunar	250		257		507
					<hr/>
					2,335

[17] We have also resolved that 836 Draft and Carriage Bullocks be allotted for the Service of the Artillery and Troops stationed within the provinces and distributed as the Commander in Chief shall Judge most proper that the Commandant of Artillery shall select from the Draft and Carriage Bullock train such Bullocks as appear to him fittest for the Service of the Artillery and Army on the reduced Establishment, and that the most unfit only be rejected, that the reduced Bullocks be immediately disposed of by Public Sale, that all the Camels now in the Service be discharged, that none be employed hereafter without our Orders and that the 250 Elephants furnished by Contract be distributed by the Commander in Chief to the several Corps composing the Army for Carriage of the Camp equipage and such other services as not only Elephants but Camels have heretofore been employed in

[18] We have already communicated to your Hon'ble Court the Resolution which we had come to of annulling every Staff Appointment which has been constituted since the 1st Jany 1776

[19] The Commander in Chief has lately addressed us on this Subject and acquainted us that in July 1783 a Reduction of the Staff of the Army took place by which every Office that could be dispensed with was abolished, he has also submitted to us a List of the Staff of the Army in 1776, and at this period, and informs us that there were Offices in 1776 not now existing and that some have been since created, most of which had their rise in the change of the constitution of the service, and the Division of the Army into large Detachments such as those commanded at Futtu Gur and Chunar by Colonel Sir John Cummings and Lieut Colonel Ahmuty

[20] We have Delivered the Statement given to us by the Commander in Chief on this Occasion to the Military Secretary, and directed him to compare the same with the general returns of the Army, and deliver

in his Report thereon that we may be enabled to come to a decision on the Subject

[21] The Military Paymaster General and Accomptant General have been directed to prepare and lay before us a regular list of Civil and Military servants of the Company paid in their respective Departts with a statement of the Pay and Allowances of every kind drawn by each on the 1st of the present month to whatever Account the same may be placed and in order to enable us to extend our Retrenchments also to the surveying Branch we have required the Chief Engineer and Surveyor General to furnish us with a report of all Officers now employed on [as] Surveyors, Specifying at the same time the particular Services on which they are engaged and the Paymaster Genl has been directed to lay before us a Statement of the Allowances whether fixed or Contingent that are now paid to such Officers

[22] Having taken into our Consideration the state of the Mofussil Dewanee Adowlets not abolished by our late resolutions, we have agreed that the expence now incurred for these Courts under whatever Description be reduced from the 1st of March to that which was resolved on in our Revenue Department on the 20th Feby and 5 July 1781

[23] We have also directed the Master Attendant to lay before us a state of the Company's Yachts and other accommodation Vessels and the monthly expence of each.

[24] We shall do ourselves the honor of transmitting to your Honourable Court by the Coruwallis our several Proceedings in detail on the subjects of Retrenchment and Reform

Fort William
22nd Feby 1785
[Per Mansfield]

We have the Honor to be etc.

37

LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1785

[Foreign Department]

Definitive treaty with France and restitution of territories—troubles on custom duties

To the Hon ble Court of Directors &c

Hon ble Sirs

[1] We ha l the honor to Address you from this Department on the 14th Ultimo by the Valentine Our Advises of that date have since been forwarded in Duplicate and Triplicate by the Hillsborough and Berrington

and now attend you in Quadruplicate by the Earl of Mansfield

[2] We have the Honor to transmit to you also the Annual Sett of our Proceedings for the year 1784, and the Broken Sett to the 31d Instant, with the Index to both

French & Dutch

[3] You have already been fully informed of the Measures which we had adopted to remove the Obstacles that had impeded the execution of the Stipulations contained in the Definitive Treaty with the Court of Versailles and the Preliminary Articles of Peace with the States General of the United Provinces

[4] On the 18th of December, your Right Hon'ble President and Select Committee at Fort St George transmitted to us a Letter which they had received from the Chief and Council at Columba of the 11th of November, acquainting them that the Definitive Treaty between Great Britain and the States General had been signed by the respective Plenipotentiaries on the 20th of May preceding, and that the Conditions of it were the same with those agreed on in the Preliminaries. They therefore entreated that they might be put in possession of those places which had been ceded to them by the Treaty, and which they said would be supposed in Europe to have been long since made over to them in consequence of the Ratification of the Preliminaries

[5] Your Select Committee informed them, in answer, that they expected daily to receive from England a Copy of the Definitive Treaty, with the Orders of their Superiors in consequence of its conclusion and should make the proper Arrangements for the execution of it immediately on its Arrival

[6] On the 5th of last Month your Right Hon'ble President and Select Committee acknowledged the receipt of our Instructions of the 23rd November and assured us that they would admit of no Delay in carrying them into Effect. They at the same time Thought it necessary to state to us their Reasons for having so long delayed the Execution of the Treaty with France. These were founded on the Orders of your Hon'ble Court of the 24th September 1783

[7] With regard to the Dutch they acquainted us that they had not conceived themselves authorized to carry the Definitive Treaty with them into Execution as it had not been transmitted to them by your Hon'ble Court

[8] The Reasons which induced us to depart from the Strict Letter of your Orders of the 24th September last, in our Instructions to your Right Honble President and Select Committee at Fort St George above refer'd to have been already so fully detailed in our Advices of the 8th December and in the Minutes from your late and Present Governor General recorded in the Proceedings noted in the Margin that we do not think it necessary to

Consns 8 Oct
and 23 Novr 1784

enter any further into the Subject of them and we doubt not but they are such as will ensure to us your Approbation of the Measures which we have adopted in Consequence.

[9] We have already had the pleasure to acquaint you that M. de Contenceau the Gentleman who succeeded the late Marquis de Bussy in the administration of the French Affairs at Pondicherry had assented to the propositions which we had made to the former on the 23rd November Mr Floyer was in Consequence appointed Commissioner on the part of your Right Hon ble President and Select Committee at Fort St George for the purpose of bringing the affair to a speedy conclusion and we have now a further satisfaction in informing you that we have since learnt that Pondicherry was delivered over to the French and Cuddalore restored to us on the 1st Instant at Noon and that Mr Floyer would lose no time in commencing an Investigation of the territories within the Districts of Villenoor and Bahoor which were by the Treaty to be ceded to France

[10] Our last Dispatches advised you of the Arrival of a Dutch Chief and Council at Surat Bar for the Management of the Affairs of that Nation at Surat and Broach and of the reply which your President and Select Committee at Bombay had made to their Claim to be put in Possession of their Factories Your President and Select Committee have since informed us under date the 8th December that the Dutch Gentlemen had protested against them for not restoring their Flag and Factory notwithstanding which they had adhered to their former Resolution of making no Restitution until they should have received our Orders on the Subject or by the Arrival of the Definitive Treaty they might find themselves fully authorized to restore the Dutch to their privileges at Surat where they had landed the Cargo of the Tromperberg after having threatened to return her immediately to Batavia

[11] The receipt of our Instructions to your President and Select Committee at Bombay of the 23d November and 20 December and of advice which your Right Hon ble President and Select Committee at Fort St George have told us that they should immediately transmit to Bombay of the Cassons having mutually taken place on the Coromandel Coast will we doubt not restore a perfect Harmony between your servants and those of the States General on the Coast of Malabar

French

[12] Monsieur de Contenceau having addressed a letter to us communicating his Succession to the Command at Pondicherry in consequence of the Death of the Marquis de Bussy and his disposition to coincide with us in every thing that might tend to establish the harmony which our respective Sovereigns had in view in concluding peace we have written him a Letter of Condolence on the occasion of the Marquis de Bussy's Death and at the same time congratulated him on his Accession to the Command

[13.] Mr Henry Richardson having resigned the Office of President of the Court of Justice at Chandernagore, we have resolved on the Abolition of that Court. Mr de Bietel is however continued in his Office of Procureur du Roi, and instructed to pay the allowances now given to the French until further Orders, drawing for the amount monthly by a Bill on us payable at the Treasury in Calcutta, and specifying the names of those, to whom subsistence is due for each Month. Mr de Bietel is also instructed to pay the allowances that are due to the Officers of the Court for the present Month.

Dutch

[14.] We have already Communicated to you the Complaint made by our Commissioners of Customs against the Chief and Council at Hoogly for refusing to give satisfactory vouchers of the Quantities and Sorts of Goods imported from the Dutch Ship Straalm and forcing them ashore in opposition to the people acting under the Authority of the Collector of Customs at Hoogly. You have also been informed of the Representation which we made to the Chief and Council at Hoogly on this Subject.

[15.] We have lately received their reply to this Complaint, in which they acquaint us that they are concerned to find themselves suspected of an attempt to interrupt the harmony which has been lately so happily established and assert that the subject of the Complaint from the Board of Customs had been adjusted with your Collector of Customs at Hoogly, in consequence of our Letter to them of the 11th of last November.

[16.] In proof of this assertion they enclose to us Copies of two letters which their President had received from that Gentleman on the occasion and acquaint us that they know of no Dispute with him of a later Date than the one therein alluded to.

[17.] They at the same time assure us of their Resolution to consider our pleasure as a Law till the final execution of the stipulations of the Treaty of Peace, although they do not acknowledge the justice of our Order to them to give a Compleat Account to the Bux bunder of all goods imported from the Straalen.

[18.] We have Communicated the Circumstances stated in the above mentioned Letter to your Commissioners of Customs, but have not yet been furnished with their answer to it.

Danes

[19.] We had the Honor to inform you by our Advices of the 14th Ultimo, that a Complaint had been made to us by your Commissioners of Customs against Mr Bie the Governor of Fredericksnagore for denying the right of your Custom House Officers to demand the Manifest of a Cargo

that had been brought in a private Danish ship to Fredericksnagore and for forcing the Goods on shore and seizing and confining the people who acted under the authority of Mr Kinlock your Custom Master at Hoogly

[20] We had at the same time the Honor to Communicate to you the substance of Mr Bie's reply to this Complaint which we had referred to the Commissioners of Customs whom we instructed to call Mr Kinlock before them and to enquire his answer to such points of Mr Bie's representation as related to him

[21] We have received a letter from the Commissioners of Customs on the subject accompanied by Mr Kinlock's answer and the evidence upon Oath of the Sepoys and Peons employed on the Occasion alluded to with the attestation of the Crews of the Boats on which they went to Serrampore to the truth of their respective Testimonies as far as the Facts came within their knowledge

[22] By these papers it appears that the Officers employed by your Collector of Customs, so far from appearing with fixed Bayonets in a Settlement where a Royal Danish Garrison was stationed as asserted by Mr Bie had not quitted their Boats till they were forced into the Factory by Mr Bie's own Guards and that Mr Bie himself came to the river side and ordered the Boats which were conveying the Cotton from the Ship in question to be unloaded denying the authority of your officers to demand any Manifest of the Cargo

[23] We have the Honor to transmit Copies of the Letter from the Commissioners of Customs and its enclosures Numbers in the Packet for your information

[24] Mr Bie has resigned his station of Chief at Fredericksnagore Cons. 3 Feby 85 and has been succeeded in it by Captain Frederick Lefevre.

[25] We have received a Letter from Mr Lefevre acquainting us that a person named Bahader Ally attended with a guard of sixty Sepoys and other servants had appeared at Fredericksnagore and asserted himself to be the son of the late Vizier Sujah al Dowlah Mr Lefevre desired to be informed of the truth of his assertion that he might be guided in shewing him or not such attention as might be due to his Birth and Station

[26] We have consequently Ordered the necessary enquiries to be made on this subject from his Excellency the Vizier's Vackeel Cons. 22 Feby 85 Raja Govind Ram who has assured our Secretary that Bahader Ally has no right to take upon himself the Character which he assumes that the Vizier and his Ministers know nothing of him and that there is no doubt of his being an Impostor

Fort Wdham
22nd Feby 1785

LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1785

Montigny's secret correspondence intercepted

TO the Honble the Secret Committee of the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs,

1. Your President and Select Committee at Bombay having suspected for some Time past that Monsieur Montigny the French Agent at Poona, was carrying on a Correspondence with Europe thro' Bombay, which might prove very detrimental to the real Interests of the Company, intercepted a Packet from that Gentleman, which they acquaint us was transmitted to you on Admiral Sir Edward Hughes's Departure from their Presidency

2. Parts of Monsr Montigny's Intelligence were in Cypher, and your Select Committee at Bombay presume that these are the most important. The Key to this Cypher appears to be in the Possession of a Gentleman in France, whose Name is mentioned in the Translate of a Letter from Monsr Montigny to the Mareschal de Corties, transmitted to us from Bombay. To multiply the Chances of its reaching you, we do ourselves the Honor of enclosing a Copy of it, notwithstanding it has already been sent to you by your Servants on the other Side of India

3. We have communicated to your Resident with Mahajee Scindia that part of the intercepted Letter from Monsr Montigny in which he says "I have just received Letters from the *Padisha Sabkar*, his (meaning Scindia's) first General, and from the *Raja Imad Bahadur*, who always testify a Desire of entering into Friendship with the French," and we have directed Lieutt Anderson to use his utmost Endeavours to make himself acquainted with the Intrigues of the French at the Court of Madajee Scindia, and to communicate to us such Information as he may be able to obtain on the Subject

4. With respect to the other Parts of Monsr Montigny's Letter, we leave you to compare his Opinions and Conjectures with what you know to be the real State of Facts, and the Objects of our Negotiations at the Country Courts. No Pains shall be wanting in us, nor any Exertions left untried to frustrate the Views of France, which tho' they may be of very difficult Accomplishment, might tend to create serious Disturbances in India. It is not improbable that the Death of the Marquis de Bussy may remove even the Trial of Success to a more distant Period than may have been originally determined for it

We have the Honor to be, Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful Humble Servants,
John Macpherson/John Stables

Fort William,
22d February 1785

LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1785

Macpherson succeeds Warren Hastings—English and French exchange their former Possessions in India—Nizam Ali's terms for alliance rejected—death of Sids of Rajapur—death of Nawab Zabita Khan—Nawab of Oudh's donation to the Rohilla Fund

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Srs

1 Our advices by your ship Valentine transmitted to you in duplicate and triplicate copies by the Hillsborough and Berrington will have acquainted you with the occurrences and proceedings in your Government of Bengal to the 18th of the last month

2 We had the honor to address you also in a short letter on the 3d Instt to inform you that the Honorable Warren Hastings Esqr your Governor General, had taken leave of us in Council and left the Presidency on the 1st, and that Mr Macpherson according to the provisions in the acts of the 13th and 21st of his present Majesty succeeded to the office of Governor General, and had taken his seat at the Board accordingly but that from motives of respect to Mr Hastings we had resolved that the ceremonial of Mr Macpherson's succession to the office of Governor General, should not take place until advice should have been received that the Berrington Indiaman in which Mr Hastings had taken his passage for England had actually proceeded on her voyage.

3 A letter has since been received from Mr Hastings, dated on board the Berrington the 8th Instant, in which Mr Hastings has formally resigned the office of Governor General and his place altogether in your service Mr Macpherson has, in consequence taken the oaths of Governor General and his accession to this office has been proclaimed in the usual manner and notified to your other Presidencies, to the Foreign Settlements, to your Residents at Foreign Courts and in general throughout the country

4 We have the honor to refer you to our proceedings noted in the margin for translations of the letters written by Mr Hastings to the different states of India, announcing to them his resolution of quitting the Government of your affairs in Bengal on the 20th Rubbee Cons 3 Feby 85 Ul Awul or 31st of January and Mr Macpherson's consequent succession to the office of Governor General We beg leave also to refer you to the same consultation for translations of letters written by Mr Macpherson to the Native Princes of India at Mr Hastings's desire, upon the same occasion.

5 Your ship Manafield being now under sailing orders we have the

honor to transmit to you a broken sett of our proceedings in this department, and their Index, commencing with those of the 20th January, and ending with those of the 15th Instant We also avail ourselves of this occasion to forward to you the annual sett of our consultations, and their index for the last year

6 Though we have not been able in the short time that has intervened, since the departure and resignation of the late Governor General, to collect the necessary materials for a complete and accurate statement of your affairs in every department under this Government, we shall endeavour in the following address, to give you the best information in our power, and to place before you, in a clear and connected point of view, the real position of affairs, at the period when Mr Hastings's administration was closed

7 Official Statements of the arrears of your Civil and Military establishments, and of your bonded and Current treasury debt on the last day of January are preparing, and will go numbers in the packet You will likewise receive by this dispatch a statement of your Revenues, explaining the sum that has been already collected of the revenues of the present year, the balance outstanding, and the prospect which we have of realizing it The account of the probable resources and expected disbursements of this Government, calculated from the 1st of April last to the 31st of the ensuing May, has been already transmitted to you, and is now sent in duplicate An account of the actual disbursements and resources of the Government for the year 1783/4, compared with the estimates of probable receipts and disbursements, for the same year, is ordered to be made out, and will be transmitted by the first opportunity, with the account of Quick stock, which is preparing, but cannot, from the nature of it, be finished for some days

8. It is from a deliberate investigation of such documents only, that your Honorable Court can form a just idea of the faculties of your Government of Bengal, and of the prospect which you can have of being relieved from the embarrassing pressure of your debts, and of being in a situation to withstand any disturbances that may arise in the course of affairs, or proceed from the designs of European or Native enemies, or from both combined

9 Our letters by this dispatch from the Foreign Department will acquaint you that, in consequence of the measures adopted by us on the 8th of October last, for bringing to a termination the negotiation that stood in suspense between your Presidency of Fort St George and the Marquis de Bussy, the French have already received Pondicherry, and delivered to us the possession of Cuddalore, and that the respective provisions of the late treaties of peace with France and the States General. are now carrying into regular and amicable effect

10. The Secret advices which we have transmitted to your Committee of secrecy will advise them of the steps taken by a neighbouring European power to interfere in the internal politics of India, in order to counteract

the British influence The same advices furnish intelligence equally interesting we mean the point of view in which our own transactions are considered by the agents of that power and more especially the recent negotiations of Mr Hastings at Lucnow

11 The only late advices which we have received in this department from your Right Honorable President and Select Committee at Fort St. George acquaint us that the private men of that part of His Majesty's 52nd Regiment which was quartered at Poonamallee had mutinied, but that the measures taken would, as your Right Honble President and the Select Committee trusted soon reduce those men to proper discipline and obedience their commanding Officer It appears had in a memorial on behalf of the Regiment complained of not enjoying half Batta an advantage which your Servants at Fort St. George inform us had never been formally allowed to the garrisons between the Kistna and the Coleroon

12 Our General Letters to your Honble Court of the 7th Ultimo communicated to you the proposal made to us by his Highness the Nabob Nizam Ally Kawn through Mr Johnson your Resident at his Court for a perpetual alliance offensive and defensive between the Company and his Highness founded in the first instance on a surrender of the Northern Circars to his Highness's possession for an equivalent in money Your Honble Court was at the same time advised of the orders which we had sent to Mr Johnson on this subject

13 Your Resident at Hydrahad has since communicated to us another proposal from the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn of no less magnitude than that the Company's possessions in the Carnatic should be delivered up to his Highness for an equivalent in cash that his Highness should liquidate the Nabob Walaw Jah's debt to the Company and continue such advantages to the Company as may now be received from that Nabob all upon condition of restoring to him those rights which he yielded to the Company in the late treaties The Nizam's offer and Mr Johnson's arguments upon it appear on our proceedings of the 3rd Instant

14 We hesitated not even for a moment in acquainting Mr Johnson that we deemed ourselves bound in faith and honor to the Nabob Walaw Jah to declare our entire and strong disapprobation of the Soubah's proposal and directing him to take an early and a proper opportunity of informing his Highness that we could not agree to it. We observed that it would be easy for Mr Johnson to express our refusal to him in such terms as would reconcile him to it and show him that the same principle of public faith and national honor which on our part would render the alliance of the English of real value to his Highness constituted the validity of our engagements with the Nabob of Arcot and made them binding and inviolable Those engagements have received the sanction of our Sovereign and we are not certain that Nizam Ally Khan may not have meant by this extraordinary proposition to establish an opinion to the prejudice of our national faith in gaining our assent in any degree to it where his Highness could obtain the money which he offers for so

litable [*sic*] a consideration we cannot imagine, indeed the proposition appears to us to throw a considerable doubt on his Highness's ability to produce the sum he offered for the Northern Circars

15 Mr Johnson certainly did his duty in communicating the proposition to us, and his reasoning on the subject of the present embarrassments in the Carnatic is ingenious and judicious, but we wish that he in the first instance expressed his well founded conviction to Nizam Khan, that no inducement of profit, nor any stage of public distress ever lead this Government to sacrifice the honor of the nation and your first Ally in India of his small remains of authority and power

16 Our resolutions on his Highness's proposal will, we assure you, have the sanction of your approval of them The opinion of the late Governor General, who delivered it to us in writing before his departure from the Presidency, coincides with our own upon this subject

17 We understand from your Resident at Hydrabad, that Tippoo made a very large demand on the late Marquis De Bussy, for disbursement on account the French troops during the last war, threatening to leave the country in case of a refusal to adjust it

18 We have the honor to transmit to you enclosed a copy of our letter from your President and Select Committee at Bombay, bearing date the 8th December They inform us of the death of Siddee Abdas in Cawn of Rajepore, and that he had been succeeded by his son Kharim Cawn Our orders to Bombay in respect to their interference in the disputes between the Siddee and the Marattas have been fully communicated to your Honorable Court in our General Letter bearing date the 17th Ultimo

19 It appears by the letter from Bombay, that some new reduction intended to be made in your Military establishment at that Presidency

20 Your Resident with Mahajee Sindia having, in conformity to orders, presented to that Chief a statement of the Broach claims, as mentioned in our letter of the 17th January, and requested that he would give positive orders to his Officers at Broach, to liquidate the debts that he might be justly owing to the Dependents of the Company, informing him at the same time, that we should make no claims to any arrears of revenue which might have been due to the Company when Broach was ceded to him, Mahajee Sindia immediately acquiesced in the request, and furnished Lieutenant Johnson with an order in the terms of it, to his principal officer at that place

21 We have the honor to transmit to you numbers in the packet of letters addressed to the late Governor General by Lieut Anderson, bearing date the 18th and 20th January, and 1st Instant They afford some light with respect to Sindia's present situation, and that the powers in his neighbourhood, and they are well deserving your particular attention

22 The Shah Zada still remains at Lucnow, and though Sindia is perhaps very anxious for his Royal Highness's return to his Father's

Court it appears from Mr Anderson's letters, that the Maratta Chief will not consent to it if it be effected with any guard of your troops; yet, without such a protection the Prince seems determined not to proceed nor can we in policy or humanity compel him

23 We are advised by Major Browne's letters to Mr Hastings transmitted numbers in this dispatch that the Nabob Zahita Cawn died at Ghosgur on the 27th of last month and that it was probable that Sindia would support Ghoolam Kawdir Cawn the eldest son of that Nabob in the succession to his Father's possessions on certain terms, but that it seemed likely that the Seiks would interfere against it

24 Major Browne also informs Mr Hastings that the Seiks had made incursions into Rohilkund with impunity and carried off a considerable booty

25 In consequence of this event, a detachment has been made of two regiments of Sepoys and four six pounders at the requisition of the Nabob Vizier from the Fennyghur station and Colonel Hudson who commands it has been ordered to march towards Aneopshur Colonel Sir John Cumming's instructions to Colonel Knudson and the Commander in Chief's opinion on them are transmitted to you numbers in this packet

26 We have been since advised by Colonel Sir John Cumming under date the 4th Instt that an intimation has been conveyed to him by Major Palmer of apprehensions entertained by the Vizier and his Ministers that a combination had been entered into between Sindia and the Seiks inimical to his Excellency and that a requisition would arrive the next day for the whole detachment, Coll. Sir John Cumming has acquainted us that although his intelligence authorized him to believe that Sindia has given encouragement to the Seiks to invade the Vizier's dominions he is yet not of opinion that any steps will be taken by this Chief of an hostile nature. Sir John Cumming attributes the friendly intercourse that had lately taken place between Sindia and certain Sardars of the Seiks to a wish on his part of preserving the country which he had lately taken under his protection from being ravaged by these freebooters and of diverting the Company's attention from the ambitious measures he was then pursuing to the defence of the frontiers against an invasion of the Seiks.

27 In consequence of some suspicions entertained by the Vizier of the fidelity of Almass Ally Cawn his Excellency had required another Regiment of Sepoys from the Cawnpore station to reinforce the troops at Lucnow and Coll. Ironside had issued orders for the Brigade under his command to be ready to move on the earliest notice but we have lately understood that Almass Ally Cawn has repaired to Lucnow and that in consequence thereof the march of a regiment to that place has been postponed.

28 The grounds for the suspicions entertained of the fidelity of Almass Ally Cawn appear to have rested on his having withdrawn his family from Lucnow and his having assembled a considerable force under his command at his cantonments of Koderote not far from Secundra

29 From this general aspect of affairs on the Western frontiers, you will readily admit, that it is necessary for us to be upon our guard, and while we are pursuing a system of moderation and pacific policy, to be prepared against any hostility or convulsion among the neighbouring native powers, We have no immediate apprehension from Sindia's ambition, nor do we suspect him of an infidelity to his engagements, yet there is so obvious a relation between the powers of the Mogul Empire, which he has assumed, and the constitutional claims of the Mogul power over the Vizier and his country,¹ that we think it a necessary policy to be ready to resist them By adopting this system we employ the most likely means to prevent the assertion of Mogul claims by the Marattas

30 The present situation of affairs manifests the propriety of our resolutions in suspending that part of Mr Hastings's agreement with the Vizier, which stipulated for the recall of the Futyghur detachment within the Provinces

31 We are determined to effect every possible reduction in the expences of that detachment and in those of all the Company's troops in the Vizier's dominions We are likewise resolved to leave the fullest scope for the successful operation of those arrangements which the late Governor General settled with the Ministers of the Vizier for the encrease of his Excellency's revenues Mr Macpherson has written a very explicit letter to the Vizier on this subject, since Mr Hastings's departure it attends you a number in the packet

32 Your Honorable Court will readily approve another principal object of that letter It explains to the Vizier the plan of reform which your Government has adopted, and which was resolved upon with the concurrence of your late Governor General It promises a relief to the Nabob's treasury, by carrying a similar plan of oeconomical regulation through every connexion of our Service with that of the Vizier within his Excellency's country, and it expressly stipulates that his Excellency shall not pay any allowances or gratuity to any of the Company's Servants, Civil or Military, within his dominions that are not regularly recorded in his public accounts with this Government This stipulation appears, from the result of late investigations, to be no less requisite for the good of your service in general than for the relief of the Vizier, and it is our steady determination to enforce and maintain it as far as our best exertions can effect so desirable a purpose

33 Although we have engaged, in consequence of the agreement concluded by your late Governor General with the Vizier not to charge his Excellency's account with the expence of the Futyghur detachment from the 1st of Jany last, 'till your pleasure shall be known, we trust that the Vizier will make a voluntary offer to provide the necessary funds for the payment of this corps, since the use of it to his Excellency's service must have been established to his conviction by the necessity which produced his requisition of two regiments attached to it to march against the Seiks, and that which was announced as very likely to follow it for the movement

of the whole detachment but we do not mean to avail ourselves of any indirect or compulsive influence to induce the Vizier to make the proposition which we have mentioned

34. The Accomptant General has transmitted to us in consequence of our orders on the 13th of last December an account exhibiting the difference between the sums monthly charged to the Vizier's debit for the Brigade at Cawnpore and Regiment at Lucnow as well as for the Fattyghur Detachment and the actual expence of the same as stated to him in two accounts from the Militia Paymaster General and Accomptant to the Board of Ordnance

35 By this statement which makes no allowance whatever for contingent charges, it appears that the sum charged to his Excellency the Vizier for the Brigade at Cawnpore is short of the actual expence in the monthly sum of Current Rupees 33 760 12 4 for the Fattyghur detachment in Current Rupees 49,287 11 8 and for the Regiment at Arcot in Current Rupees 984 3 10

36 The Accomptant General's letter and statements go numbers in the packet and we believe that you will agree with us, that they furnish no argument in support of the proposition made to us for diminishing the subsidy now paid by his Excellency the Vizier for the troops at Cawnpore

37 The debt owing to the Company by his Excellency at the end of last month is as follows

Balance due from him as stated by the Acct
Curr of the Accomptant at Lucnow for
the month of January

Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees

27 18 004 10 3

Batta 11 Pr Cent

2 09 086 1 0

Ct Rs 30 18 050 12

Add the amounts which the Nabob has
been short debited on account of the
expence of the Candahar Cavalry serving
with the Bombay detachment

1 60 084 0 8

Ct. Rs. 31,87 135 5 8

38 This includes the amount of his Excellency the Vizier's donation to the army employed in the Rohilla Campaign or Current Rupees 11 65 000

39 You have long since been informed of an agreement concluded by Mr Bristow your late Resident at Lucnow with the house of Gopaul Dass for a loan of fifteen lacs of rupees, payable at the Presidency with a reduction of one per Cent per mensem in the Interest and four per Cent in the Exchange

40 It was stipulated in this agreement that the surplus of the receipts at Lucnow, after defraying the disbursements for the troops at

Cawnpore and Futtyghur, and the chaiges of the Residency, was to be appropriated to the repayment of this loan. The Nabob was to be charged with the interest on it. Mr Bristow's letters of the 31d June, 14th October, and 10th December 1783, state this transaction at large. They are recorded on our proceedings noted in the margin, and we beg leave to refer you to them also for the other entries on our consultations upon this subject

41 In consequence of a minute delivered by Mr Hastings on the 28th of last month, the Accomptant at Lucnow has been directed to discharge the loan of Gopaul Doss with the ten lacs of rupees that are to be received from the Vizier in the month of Jeyte (Jeyte commences on the 6th of May and ends with the 31d of June) in lieu of remitting the same to this Presidency and Surat, and with such part of the Kist of Bhaudun (Bhaudun commences with the 1st August and ends with the 30th) as may be necessary for this purpose

42 Major Palmer, who was placed by Mr Hastings as the Governor General's private agent at the Court of the Vizier, after the public residency was withdrawn, remains still at Lucnow. Mr Macpherson's letters to the Vizier (which are recorded on our consultations) are transmitted to Major Palmer who presents them to the Nabob. He will of course transmit the Vizier's letters to the Presidency, but in no other capacity is he employed by this Government, and you will readily believe that it is from motives of delicacy towards the late Governor General and his arrangements in the upper provinces, and an unwillingness on our part to adopt any measure in respect to the restoration of the Residency that might infringe those arrangements, that we have left Major Palmer in the situation above described at Lucnow

43 Mr Macpherson wishes not to avail himself of the privilege of deputing an agent on his own part to the Court of the Vizier, though the present engagements with him provide for such a deputation. He wishes to comply not only with the spirit but the letter of any orders that you may be pleased to transmit to us on the subject of the Residency, and he doubts not that those orders will provide sufficiently for the attention that should ever be paid to the recommendation of your Governor General, in favor of those of your servants whom he may think best qualified to officiate as your Ministers at Foreign or Ally Durbars. His favorable opinion of the abilities of Mr Bristow and Mr Cowper has not been invalidated by the accusations which were preferred against them by Hyder Beg Cawn, yet situated as affairs are at present in the Vizier's country, and prejudiced as the Vizier or his Minister may still be against these Gentlemen, it would not be expedient to appoint either of them to the charge of the Residency, before the period is elapsed within which the Vizier has promised to complete his payments to the Company. This period is September next

44. We have thought it our duty to give you our sentiments thus

candidly and explicitly on subjects which were formerly agitated with some warmth and a difference of Opinion in our Councils and relative to which you may be desirous of knowing not only our present ideas, but our future intentions

45 By private advices which we have received from Bombay dated as late as the 9th of last month we are informed that official dispatches had been received there from your Honble Court, announcing a new arrangement in the administration of the Company's Presidencies in India under a new act of the Legislature. Your dispatches for this Government in consequence of that act have not yet arrived

46 We address you separately on the subject of our retrenchments and our proceedings with respect to the Foreign Settlements.

The state of the treasury is as follows

Ready Money

General treasury	75,312.14	7	
Khalsah	33 319 15	4	1,08 632,13 11

Bills receivable Sa Rs

General treasury	1530534 7 10	17 75 420	
Khalsah	196153 5 4	2 27,637 13 10	20 02 957 13 10

Mint

General Treasury			
Khalsah	20 857 12 2		20,857 12 2

Unsorted Treasure

Khalsah			
From Burdwan	1 10 883 10 10		
	1 10 883 10 10	Valued at 10 pr Cent	
		better than Ct Rs.	1 21 072 -

Currt. Rups.	22 54 420 8 3
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Balance account deposits	6,38 510 6 6
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Do Accomptant General to the Mayor's Court	1,20 161 13 0
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Do of the Old Bonded debt on which the interest has ceased by public advertisement	45 117 8
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New Bonded debt at 8 Pr Cent	1 57,26 907 12 11
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4 Pr Cent Remittance loan	8,56 840
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Annuities

1 73,87 546 1 11

We have the Honor to be

Honble Sirs

Your most faithful Humble Servants

John Macpherson/John Stables

Fort William

22nd February 1785

[Per Mansfield]

LETTER DATED 2 MARCH 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon'ble Sns,

We had the Honor to acquaint you in our Letter from this Department of the 22 Ultio by the ship Earl of Mansfield, that we should transmit to you by the Cornwallis our present proceedings in Detail on the Subjects of Retrenchment and Reform. A broken Sett of these commencing on the 20th August 1782 and ending on the 19th Ultimo, accordingly attends you herewith, and we shall have the honour to transmit to you a complete Sett, with an Index, when our Investigations on this Subject shall have been brought to a conclusion

We have the Honor to be,

Honble Sns,

Fort William,
2nd March 1785
[Per Cornwallis]

Your most faithful Humble Servants,
(Sd) John Macpherson/John Stables/
Chas Stuart

LETTER DATED 2 MARCH 1785

Activities of Marathas and Sikhs—recall of Browne

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble. Sirs,

[1] Our address from this department of the 22nd Ultimo by your Ship Mansfield will have advised you of every material occurrence that had taken place to that period, and we now avail ourselves of the opportunity offered by the dispatch of the Cornwallis to communicate to you such matters as have come to our knowledge since that time, and appear deserving of your notice

[2] We understand from Lieutenant Anderson, that the Governor of the Fort of Agra had agreed to deliver it up to Sindia, and that Rayjee Pattile had, in consequence, been deputed to receive it, but it seems that new difficulties have since arisen, and that the Governor has not only refused to deliver up the Fort to Rayjee Pattile, but after his arrival there had

increased his preparations for the defence of it

[3] It is suggested however In the opinion of your Resident with Mahajee Sindia that the utmost which the Governor of Agra can do is to protract the surrender for a time as it is impossible for him destitute as he is of resources of his own and unsupported by any other Chief to withstand the power of Sindia in case he should compel the exertion of it against him

[4] Ambajee who was lately detached with a considerable force from Sindia's camp at Deig to Dehly having been met at a considerable distance from that city by the Nudjif Cooley Cawn has taken quiet possession of the management of affairs in that quarter Lieutenant Anderson advises us that Sindia's principal aim at present seems to be to form an Alliance with the Seiks or rather to purchase their forbearance from hostilities

[5] Late letters from Major Browne [to] your late Governor General transmitted to you numbers in this dispatch with translations of the papers of Intelligence enclosed in them acquaint us that the Seiks have again approached to the Ganges but as the whole of the detachment of your Troops under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming (excepting one Regiment that was left in charge of the cantonments &c. at Futtyglur) have marched from that station for the protection of the fords of the Ganges, we are persuaded that the intentions of the Seiks must be frustrated and even if Sindia should join them we trust we possess the means of defeating such a combination and counteracting its effect. The Ganges begins to swell towards the end of May and during the rains we can have little to dread from the incursions of the Seiks

[6] In consequence of a report that had reached Mr Anderson and has already been communicated to your Honble Court that Sindia had incited the Seiks to invade the Vizier's dominions Mr Anderson took an opportunity of mentioning the report to Sindia We send Mr Anderson's letter on this subject a number in the packet Mr Anderson acquaints us that he has the strongest reasons to believe that the report alluded to sprung entirely from something that was said by Himmut Behaudro

[7] As the Government of Delhi appears to be now under the entire controul of Mahajee Sindia and as Mr Anderson your Resident at his Court is very capable of preserving our intercourse with Shah Allum and of conducting any negotiations that may hereafter exist between his Majesty Shah Allum and the Company we have concurred in a proposition of the Governor General that Major Browne be directed to obtain his Majesty's permission to withdraw from his Court The Governor General will address the Shah on this occasion A considerable saving will arise from Major Browne's recall and the reduction of his Embassy

[8] Mr Anderson advises that in consequence of letters which he had received from Bombay he has procured from Mahajee Sindia and forwarded to Surat, the necessary passports and letters for facilitating Mr Mallet's journey from that Presidency to Sindia's Camp

[9] We have lately received a letter from our Resident at Hyderabad

under date the 31st of January, copy of which we have the honor to enclose for your perusal, as it contains such further arguments as have occurred to that Gentleman in support of his propositions for a more intimate connexion with the Navaub Nizam Ally Cawn, on the terms already submitted to your judgement, by a cession of our right to the Northern Circars acquired by the treaty of 1768, for an equivalent in money. As we do not see any present necessity for the continuance of Mr Johnson at Hyderabad, and as the expence incurred by his deputation forms an object of very considerable magnitude, we have thought proper to direct him to return with his Suite to the Presidency as soon as possible.

We have the honor to be,

Honble Sirs,

Your most faithful humble Servants,

John Macpherson/John Stables/

Chas Stuart

Fort William,
2nd March 1785
[Per Cornwallis]

12

LETTER DATED 25 MARCH 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Reduction of expenses in civil and military establishments—plan to liquidate debts—foreign trade

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We have had the Honor to communicate to you in our General Advices bearing date the 31st January and 22nd February, the resolutions that we have passed in this Department for the Retrenchment of your Expences and the Reform of your Service under this Government to as late a period as the 22nd Ultimo, and on the 2d Instant we transmitted to your Hon'ble Court our Proceedings at length on these Subjects continued to the 19th of the last month. Copies of our late Letters attend you numbers in the Packet with a continuation of our proceedings from the 9th Ultimo to the 16th of this Month.

2. The Statements we have required from the different Offices of Check and Disbursement have not been yet completed, but we have every expectation that they will be soon finished. They were important and required the clearest Precision in the formation of them, and the remoteness of some Stations from which the materials were to be supplied has of Necessity been a Source of much Delay.

3. Our first Object was to obtain a very exact and Detailed account

of the monthly Expences of every Department and of every Individual Office under Government whether Civil or Military Upon receiving this Account we proposed to fix the actual Expence of every Office and Employment not only in their Establihed Allowances, upon a reduced scale but to limit all contingent charges to as moderate and invariable a Stand ard as possible.

4. Many wise Regulations have been at various times adopted by your Government of Bengal not only for collecting and realizing the public Revenue but for a regular and guarded disbursements of it

5 These Regulations have at the same time been frequently overlooked and lost in some measure in the great Volume of the public Records. When the ill Effects of an Evasion of the best Orders of Government appeared in the actual Conduct of Affairs new and more specific Regulations were generally adopted hence It has followed that those interested in evading the Rules of the Service have often made their Appeal to contradictory Authorities, and derived a Justification for excessive Demands from the Variety and frequent discordance of Orders that were originally intended for the Security of the Public Finance

6 It has been in the contingent Charges of your Establishments that this Evil has predominated with the most ruinous Effects Contingent Charges have been and over will be in all Governments the great Sources of abuse and in proportion as the contingent Disbursements of this Government particularly are compressed within strong Restrictions in the same proportion will your Finances become regulated and your Ultimate Security established. For were an Account of the Actual Expence of this Government within any particular Period contrasted with that of its established Charges in the several Departments for the same period the Difference which this comparison would exhibit would be found to be excessive and as every augmentation of such Difference must operate almost immediately upon the Sum which we could afford either to the Provision of an Investment for Europe or to the Relief of your other Presidencies It must be kept at the lowest limit which the Exigency of your affairs will admit of

7 It is the Reduction of the overwhelming Evil produced from the excessive Amount of contingent charges that a successful exertion of Retrenchment is to be principally Applied

8. Though the List of the established Allowances of your Civil Service which was transmitted to you after much difficulty by the Mansfield will strike you in many instances with Astonishment and incur your Animadversion and though the collective Amount of the Salaries and Emoluments in that Statement constitutes in itself a Revenue equal to the monied Resource of many States in Europe yet It is not by any extraordinary Reform in that Chapter of your Expence that we hope to restore your Credit or relieve you from the Pressure of your Debts.

9 Our best Hopes in the pursuit of this most Important of all your concerns are founded in the Labor with which we are endeavouring to

raise permanent boundaries against encreasing Expences and ultimately and gradually to draw the Stream of your Contingent Charges back within a narrow Channel

10 To form an adequate idea of the destructive Influence or Inundation with which this stream has flown during the late Wars in all your Presidencies, you have only to refer to the Sum by which the Income of this Government exceeded its actual Disbursements at the commencement of the War. This Sum added to the Amount of your Debts, as they now stand in India, and the greatest part of your Debt in Europe may be termed the progressive growth of your Contingent Charges

11 To prevent as much as possible the accumulation of so fatal a Burthen in future, and to provide some gradual liquidation or relief for the present Debt, next to the immediate Security of these Dominions, must be the first object of your Attention and Care

12 Impressed with the Duties and anxieties connected with such an Object we are exerting ourselves with the utmost Zeal, and to the best of our Abilities. It is doing a great deal to be able to revive your Credit, and to reduce considerably the Discount upon your Bonds and the Orders upon your Treasury. In every stage of this Work we trust that we shall meet with your Indulgence, and we doubt not but we shall have your Co-operative support in the most liberal and useful extent. We shall have occasion for it all and with a patience on your part as steady as the Task we have in hand is arduous. We likewise trust to an equal Support and Indulgence from the Superior Administration of our Country. We have to thank them already for some of the wisest Provisions that could be framed by the Legislature of the Parent State for the Security and Protection of the public Service in these remote Dominions. We mean those clauses of the late Act of Parliament, for the Regulation of the Company's Affairs, which secure the Civil and Military Servants of the Company in a progressive Line of advantage and reward according to the length and merit of their Service in this inhospitable Climate. It is our Duty, and will be a pleasure to us, to impress upon the minds of your servants the obligations which they owe to you for the Struggle you have made to obtain for them the security of these Regulations, We shall likewise hold forth to them the Gratitude with which they should be bound to their Country, while the Rulers of it have been pleased to connect a Validity with the Rewards of Service, which renders Service of the Company a species of Patrimony to those employed in it. The liberal Spirit of so provident an Arrangement was worthy of the British Legislature and of the extensive views of a British Administration, and altho' there may be circumstances, connected with the Law which dispenses this Justice, that may at first sight appear severe, and excite a Jealousy inseparable from the noblest ideas of Servants and Subjects of a free State, we shall yet consider it our Duty to remove their Apprehensions, and satisfy our fellow subjects in this Country that the Severities of the late Law, which have certainly affected their national Pride, are only necessary severities imposed

merely for the purpose of restraining illegal Acts, and rescuing Innocence and Merit from the unjust Effects of general Prejudice and aspersion

13 It is not always easy even for Individuals much less for great Communities to discriminate one cause of dissatisfaction from another which may create uneasiness at the same moment Upon this ground it will not appear extraordinary to you that discontents invariably connected with general systems of Reform in all Countries should imperceptibly and involuntarily mix with general Ideas of Disapprobation of some parts of the late Regulations for the trial of Offences committed in India

14 The period of your late most expensive Wars in which contingent Charges rose to an enormous height has at the same time produced some of the clearest and most politic Regulations that were ever devised by any administration as checks against profusion or an improper Waste of the public Money We are endeavouring to bring those estimable Rules and Orders of your Service to practical Use and to a public and connected System of Regulation for the Guidance of all your Servants We cannot place this subject more intelligibly before you than by calling your Attention to different Positions contained in a Minute which the Governor General recorded in Council on the 11th Instant Those Propositions were the result of repeated discussions at the Board in which all our opinions invariably agreed. The Propositions therefore are more for the Forms of Business than as the separate Propositions of the Governor General made in his name to the Board They are as follows

1st That an official List of the Company's Servants Civil and Military be printed together with a Summary Account of all the Departments and Offices of Government with an Explanation of the Particular Duties of each Office and a Recapitulation of the established Instructions for the Discharge of its Duties

2nd That this Publication be divided into two parts, the Civil and the Military Departments

3rd That a new Regulation should be adopted and added Vix. that no Civil Servant shall be permitted to draw the Allowances and Salaries of more than one Office when there are covenanted Servants, without any Office or Salary yet willing to be employed and capable of discharging the Duties of any Supernumerary Office This Regulation not to preclude Servants from holding more than one Office at a Time there being Offices of which the respective Duties are intimately connected

4th That a General Order be Issued to the following Purport throughout the Service Civil and Military

That the Board have found by experience that various Claims against the Company have been unnecessarily kept back for a length of Time that the Company have not only suffered considerable loss on this Account but the Attention of the Members of Government has been taken off from more material Business by Applications for Claims of long standing which if brought forward in proper Time might have been ascertained and liquidated with less Difficulty to Government and with more satisfaction

to the Claimants That the Duties of the public Officers of Government must have been impeded and the annual Books kept back in consequence of Applications on such subjects and that for these Reasons the Board have determined to put an End to this Practice, and in Order to convince the Servants of the Company, indiscriminately, that the success of all Demands or Claims must Depend no less on their Moderation and Propriety, than on their being made within a proper Time, it is resolved and ordered that upon and after the 1st day of May next, any Bill or Demand, which shall not be presented to the proper Paymaster within three months after the same becomes due, shall be totally, and finally rejected, without any other reason whatever being assigned, than its not having been presented within the prescribed Time After this public Notice, the Parties will have themselves only to blame if they fail to make their Demands within the Time hereby limited "

5th That in order to ascertain at one View and regulate the Payment of the established Monthly Allowances of the European Commissioned Staff, and Warrant Officers of each Rank in the Army it be resolved, and ordered, that from the 1st of May next not only the Pay and Batta, but, also all fixed allowances of every Nature and Denomination shall be drawn in one Bill or abstract, shewing the total Sum due to each Officer per Month, agreeable to a fixed and described Form

6th That for the purpose of ascertaining when Bills shall have been presented in any Department, the Board direct, that all Paymasters do from the 1st day of May next keep a Register, in which shall be inserted the Number of the Bill or Abstract according to the Order of Presentment, the Drawers Name and Rank, the amount, the Date of Presentment, and a blank Column for writing off, when the Bill shall have been discharged, after which the number and Date of presentment shall be marked on the Back of every Bill, and be subscribed by the Paymaster A form of the Register of Bills to be kept by the Paymasters was annexed to this Proposition

7th That all Demands against the Company which, after a full Investigation, shall be found to be unjust or unreasonable, and which shall be declared so by the Board, will not only subject the persons making such Demands to a public Reprimand, but Government will take such other measures to testify their Displeasure in such cases, as the Degree or Repetition of the Offence may require Copies of all Demands falling under the above description to be entered in a Seperate Book to be on the Council Table, and to be transmitted annually to your Honourable Court

These Propositions having been laid before us your Governor General observed that having already discussed the subjects of them with the members of the Board, and knowing their wishes upon every point of them to correspond with his own He had directed the Commissary General, and the Accomptant General, together with the Paymaster General, the Civil Paymaster, and the Accomptant to the Revenue Department to revise the Standing Regulations in then different Offices of Check, and

Disbursement and to prepare a select Abridgement of the same to be submitted to our final approbation for the Salutary Purposes which he had promised Mr John Petrie the late Compiler of the standing orders of Government had offered his Assistance upon this occasion, and when the whole work should be complete with the additional Regulations which your Governor General has suggested he has promised to lay the same before us for our final adjustment and Directions.

By that Time it is to be hoped that the Business of General Retrenchment will be completed thro every Department of the Service, and that the exact allowances of every Office with the established Pay and Emoluments of every Rank in the Service will be ascertained and published for the Guidance of the Officers of Government and your particular information

15 The Board remarked that Perfection and Regularity could only be introduced gradually in a Work of this kind but should they ever be attained in a considerable Degree great would be the Relief and Credit to the principal Servants and Members of your Administration and your Honble Court could then be able to see in a clear and comprehensive Point of view the System of your Superior Government with the Expences of this Establishment and by comparing these with your actual Resources and making allowances for the annual Burthen of the Debts and the Demands of the other Settlements you would be competent to issue the best Orders, and to adopt the necessary Regulations for the security of the whole.

16 Having unanimously concurred in your Governor Generals Propositions and passed our Orders accordingly we have the Pleasure to inform you that the new Regulations have been already adopted and Issued and that the Work proposed for explaining and publishing the orders of Government and checking every Disbursement (separating the established from the contingent and restraining the latter in the securest Channel) is preparing at the different Offices, and will soon be ready for Publication to answer the Salutary purposes intended

17 Having proceeded thus far on the great and general line we shall now enter on the Detail of Particulars which the minute and comparatively unimportant cannot but be satisfactory to you in their Explanation The Recital will include an abstract of all that we have resolved on whether the same has been already communicated or remains to be communicated to your Honble. Court

18 We shall distinguish the Reform in the Civil from that in the Military Department as far as we have proceeded in them and as soon as Estimates can be prepared of the Savings they have produced such Estimates shall be transmitted to you

Civil Department

19 The Committee of Revenue and Collectors forming the most considerable Office under your Government naturally attracted our attention

in the first Instance The Salaries of the Committee arose from a Commission on the Net Collections They drew one per Cent upon the Net Collections in General, and an additional sum upon that Part of the Collections made Huzoory or under their own immediate Controul The Commission of the President amounted in the last year to Sa Rs 90504 3 15 3 [sic] and that of each Member of the Committee to Sa Rs 75420 3 3 We have reduced this percentage so as to allow the President to draw a sum not exceeding sixty thousand Rupees and each of the subordinate Members a sum not exceeding fifty Thousand Rupees Per Annum This reform at the same time that it produces a considerable saving in the allowances to the Committee yet leaves a sufficient and an ample compensation for their labours in very responsible situations of the first and most important Trust.

20. We directed the Committee of Revenue to revise their Establishments and we positively enjoined them to reduce the expences of the offices and the salaries of the Officers both European and Native, dependant on them, as far as possible, and without loss of time, and we ordered them to abolish all Establishments that are not absolutely and essentially necessary under the Penalty of our Displeasure upon any inattention to our Commands in this respect Their Propositions and Statements on this subject which we have agreed to are transmitted numbers in the Packet

21 The Accountant General and some other Officers being paid in the same Manner as the Committee from a Commission upon the Net Collections, the Salaries of all Officers in this Predicament are to be regulated by the Rule observed for reducing the Salaries of the Committee

22 We have resolved on the Reduction of two of the Collectors of Revenue in the Bahar Province, and that the Lands on the Southern Side of the River be placed under the Authority of your Chief at Patna, and Mr Law the Collector of Guyah, excepting always such Districts as the Committee may think it expedient to take under their own Management The Districts to the Northward of the River are to be placed under one Authority, Viz Mr Graemes, your Collector of Sarcar Sarun

23 It remains with the Committee to specify the limits of the respective Jurisdictions of the remaining Collectors, and to submit them to our Approbation

24. The Collectorships of Futteh Sing, Hooghly, Pachite and Jellapore, and the Office of Commissioner of Burdwan appearing to us to be totally unnecessary, as the Vicinity of these Districts to Calcutta suggested the Propriety of placing them immediately under the Committee of Revenue, they have been all abolished. We have also annulled the Collectorship of Silberris, and put the Districts appertaining to it under Charge of the Chief of Moorshedabad

25 We had resolved that all the Reductions which we passed before the 1st of March should take effect from that Day, but in consideration of a representation made to us by the Committee of Revenue and recorded in our Revenue proceedings we have agreed that the Collectors in the Bahar Province who were under orders of Reduction should remain until the

close of the present Bahar Year and those of Bengal until the close of the Bengal Year

26 We have reduced three of the Dewannee Adawlets Viz those stationed at Rajehaut Sultanose, and Meusey in the Bahar Province, and the Powers belonging to each are transferred to other Jurisdictions. The Jurisdiction of the Adawlet at Rajehaut is divided between the Judges of Moorshedabad and Burdwan that of Sultanose between the Collector of Silhet and Judge of the Dacca Adawlet and the Adawlet of Durhunga absorbs the Powers annexed to that of Meusey The Fouzedary Jurisdiction and Establishment appertaining to each of the Adawlets has fallen of course

27 With respect to the remaining Adawlets we have resolved on the reduction of the Expence of each to the Sum that was fixed on their first Establishment and ordered in the Revenue Consultations of the 20th February and 5th July 1781

28 We have reduced the Salary allowed to the Examiner and Reporter of Appeals to the Sndder Dewannee Adawlet from 2500 Rupees a Month to 1500 Rupees.

29 Our Secretary having advised us, on our Inquiry that no answer had been received from the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature to our Letter of the 24th August last in which they were informed that the Establishment of the Supreme Court would soon come under consideration and that we wished to be previously assisted with their opinion in respect to such parts of the Establishment as would admit of Diminution we transmitted to them a Copy of our Letter, and requested their Reply to it

30 The Judges have acquainted us in answer that they cannot see what Parts of their Establishment will admit of Diminution unless the Legislature shall empower his Majesty to make a total change in the Charter and he shall think fit to exercise his Power by establishing a Judicature and Modes of Process very different from the present. A Doubt is suggested also of their legal Power either to reduce the number of their Ministerial Officers or diminish their appointed Salaries Certain it is the Judges add that neither can be lessened by any Act of the East India Company alone nor consequently by an Act of our Board We have the honor to enclose a Copy of the Judges Letter a number in this Dispatch

31 We have called upon the proper Officers to lay before us a complete account of all Salaries Allowances and Fees granted and permitted to all persons serving in the Supreme Court and to the Several Law Officers employed for the Company

32 On examining the Expences of the Salt Department, we have Reduced the Commission of ten per Cent upon the Net Profits of the Salt, which was divided between the Comptroller and Agents to five per Cent and we have removed all the Deputies. In the details of the Establishments annexed to the Salt Department there are probably some Charges that can be reduced, and we have recommended to Mr Vansittart the

Comptroller to revise the Expences and lessen them as far as possible

33. The Comptroller of the Salt manufacture having represented to us that Mr Johnson's Services as Deputy Salt Agent in the Bulwah and Chittagong districts would be necessary, we have permitted the Comptroller to avail himself of them to the End of next September and altho' this Office is annulled he is authorized to continue to Mr Johnson his established allowances to that period

34. We have annihilated the Board of Customs and the President thereof has taken Charge of the Business, but we have not yet determined on his Salary nor those of his Assistants, tho' we have resolved on a reduced Establishment of Servants for his Office We have passed some orders for his Guidance, which appear on our Proceedings of the 11th Instant and the Information which he is directed to deliver to us, will enable us to make some Reductions in the Several Establishments of the Offices, Stations, and Chowkies dependant on him

35 We have reformed the Collectorship of Customs at Chowsar.
 Consn 20 Dec As there is an Office of Customs at Patna there could not
 1784 & 27 Jany be the least necessity for the continuance of that at
 1785 Chowsar

36 We have directed that a particular Statement of the Pachoutra
 Do and Shahbunder Collections be laid before us, specifying the
 names of the several Officers employed in these Departments, and the Nature and Extent of their Respective Jurisdictions, the Articles upon which and the Rates by which their Collections are made

37 The objects proposed in the Establishment of the Committee
 Do of Grain having been answered, and the necessity that
 Cons 8th March dictated the Establishment no longer existing, we have
 1785 abolished the whole of it

38 The Charges of Poolbundy or repairing the Embankments of the
 Cons 20 Dec River are considerable Some of these works are performed
 1784 & 27th Jany. by Contract, and some by Estimate We have particularly
 1785 recommended the Revision of these Expences to the Committee of Revenue and that, in all Instances where it can be done, the Repairs to be performed by the Zemindars in Order to reduce the Establishments of Superintendants

39. It has been the usage of this Government to grant to such of
 Do your Servants as were willing to apply themselves to the
 study of the Persian Language an Allowance for Masters, as an Encouragement to them We have resolved that this Indulgence shall be allowed to Servants only under the Rank of Factors and that Masters to all others be abolished

40. In Consequence of Orders given for the Establishments immediately depending upon Council as well as those of the
 Do Offices of the Compiler of Standing Orders and Persian Translator to be laid before us the same have been received, tho' not yet considered

41 The Governor General having suggested to us the Propriety of removing to the public Council House the respective Offices of the Secret or Political and the Revenue Departments, as a considerable saving in House Rent would thereby be effected and such a Resolution would tend to the Dispatch of Business, the principal Departments and Records of Government being then near each other we have agreed to the Proposition and disposed of the Public Council House accordingly but as Mr Hay the Secretary to the Political Department had leased the House in which the Business of his Office is at present conducted for the present year the Governor General proposed and we resolved that the Rent thereof should be defrayed by the Company for that Period

Cons. 11th.
March 1785

42 The Accountant General has been ordered to lay before us a Statement of all such sums as are charged to the Company both in Calcutta and the Mofussil on account of House Rent and the Repairs of Houses.

Cons. 4 Jan'y
1785

43 We could not but remark on the very heavy Charge incurred for Monthly Writers in all Public Offices and on the inconvenience arising from employing these Persons to perform the Duties of the Servants of the Company We have therefore required from all the Heads of Offices an Account of the Establishment of Company's Servants necessary for carrying on the Business of their respective Departments

Cons. 20 Decr
1784 & 27
Jan'y 1785

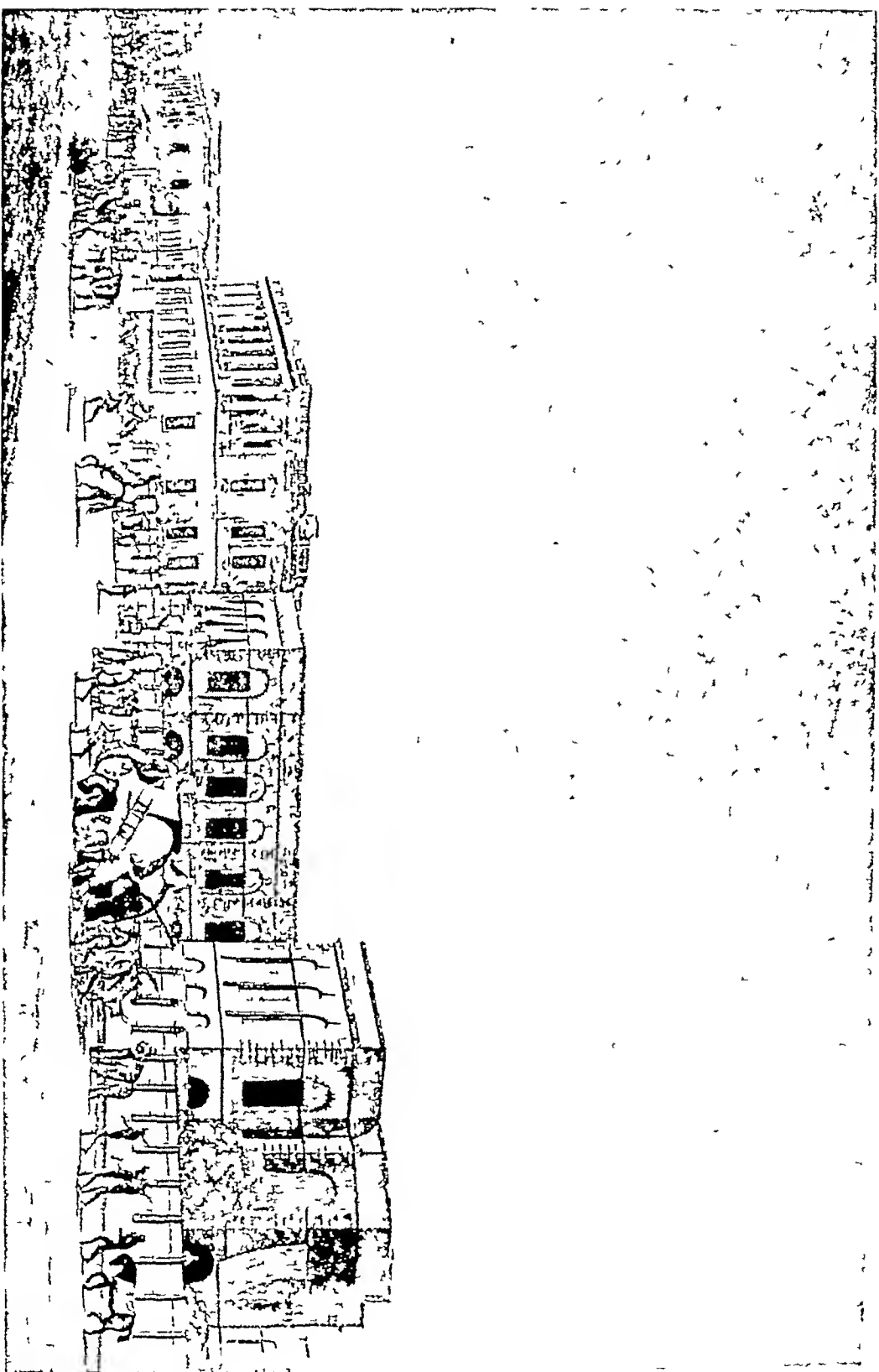
44 With respect to the Marine Department we resolved as a standing order of Government that no Pilot Sloop should ever be employed on any Foreign Service and we directed the Marine Poymaster to lay before us an Account of the Expences attending the Equipment of those vessels that have been so Employed which would enable us to form a Judgement of the Charges prevented by this Rule. This Account has been sent in and amounts from the 1st May 1780 to the 31st December 1784 to no less than Rs 3 95 785 6 8

45 Your Board of Trade were acquainted that in all those Departments which are immediately under ourselves we had begun a plan of Reform on the Principles which we had the Honor to explain to You in our Letter of the 31st Jannary and that we relied on their Zeal and Regard for your Interests to carry this Plan into Execution on the same Principles in the different Offices under them and we have desired that they will lay before us as soon as possible an Account of the Reductions which they may be able to effect in their own Establishments.

Cons. 20th
Decr 1784 &
27 Jan'y 1785

46 They entirely coincided with us in the necessity of the plan of Retrenchment and Reform which we had communicated to them and they applauded the Principles on which it was grounded. They assured us at the same Time of their ready Cooperation by any reductions they might be able to effect in the Establishment of their Department but we have yet received no Information

Cons. 15
Feb'y 1785



The Council House, Calcutta

whatsoever of such Reductions having taken place

47. Your Accountant General has been directed to prepare and lay before us a regular List of all your Civil and Military Servants, as well as all other Persons receiving any Salary or Subsistence from this Government who are paid in the Civil Department with a Statement of the Pay and Allowances drawn by each on the 1st Feby, whether the same be placed to the Account of Durbar Charges or to any other Account, and we have found it necessary to issue Orders that those who are in the Receipt of Established Allowed Fees, or Emoluments of Office, do immediately transmit an Intimation of the average monthly amount of those to the Accountant of that Department to which their Offices appertain, that the same may be included in the Statement of their Salaries and Allowances We have further declared that every unnecessary delay which shall appear in any such Servant, or in any Department in conforming to these Orders, shall be considered as a wilful Disobedience of them, and treated accordingly

48 Your Surgeon General has transmitted to us according to our Directions a List of all the Surgeons on this Establishment and an Account of the Places at which they are respectively employed

49 We have required the Accountant General to lay before us a complete Account of all Medical Allowances and Expences, with a View to such Reductions as can be effected in those heavy charges

50 We have now nearly closed our Detail of the Resolutions² that we have passed as well for diminishing your Expences in the Civil Service as obtaining Materials for the continuation of this Work We have only further to acquaint you that, it being among the principles on which the Reductions were commenced that a decent subsistence should be allowed to those Servants who might be removed from their Offices, whether by the abolition or partial Reduction of them, according to a Table of Allowances to be drawn out in Proportion to their Respective Ranks, as well as to those Servants who were not in possession of any Office, we resolved that

	Sa	Rs
A Senior Merchant should receive Per Month		1200
A Junior Merchant	.	800
A Factor	..	500

51 Many of your Servants were allowed Pensions in Consequence of their removal from their Offices on the Appointment of the Committee of Revenue These Pensions are abolished, and in Lieu thereof those Servants who are not in any Employ receive the Salaries that are fixed for their respective Ranks in the Table of Allowances before mentioned

52. It was also among the principles on which the Reform was

Cons. 20th Dec. 1784 & 27 Jan'y 1785 begun that Permission should be granted to those of your Servants who might be willing to avail themselves of it, whether such as should be removed from their Offices or others who might be continued in theirs upon a reduced Establishment to return to England with an Allowance of half their allotted Salaries payable in Bengal and without forfeiture of their respective Ranks.

53 We have accordingly made the Resolution public all Persons desirous of proceeding to Europe thereupon are to enjoy their Leave of Absence for three Years, commencing from the Day of their Arrival in England on Condition of their returning to the Service before that Period expires if required so to do by your Hon ble Court and all such Persons are to notify to you the Day on which they shall arrive in England and if not called upon to return to Bengal before the three years are ended they are to signify their Intention in due Time to your Honourable Court whether it be to remain in England or return to India and in Failure thereof they are to lose all Pretensions to the Service

54. In passing these Resolutions we have reserved to ourselves the Power of preventing any Civil Servant from availing himself of it who is not ready to declare upon Oath that his Fortune does not exceed the undermentioned Sums.

If a Senior Merchant	Current Ra.	28,000
If a Junior Merchant		24,000
If a Factor		19 200

Military Department

55 The General Peace which has taken place in Europe and in India the present State of your finances and the positive Orders recently received from your Honourable Court required our Attention to the State of the Army and that such Reductions should be made in the Military Expences as could be effected with due Regard to the safety of your Possessions under our Charge and with a proper Consideration of the claims and Merits of the Officers and Men.

56 On reverting to the List of the Army on the 20th December when our Resolutions were begun in this Department for reducing your Military Charges We observed that you had then in your Service on this Establishment

Commissioned Officers in the Rank of Colonels	7
of Lt. Colonels	19
of Majors	64
of Captains	189
of Subalterns	790

Warrant Officers	{	Surgeons Major	4
		Surgeons	52
		Surgeons Assistant	93
Cadets	{	Arrived	111
		not yet arrived	35
Minor Cadets	..		107

57 This encrease in the number of Officers arises from the great and extraordinary Efforts which this Government was obliged to exert in the late War, and the whole present List amounts to nearly double of our former Peace Establishment

58 We resolved that the whole Sepoy Establishment formed at present into three Brigades, consisting of thirty five Regiments independently of the Ramgur Light Infantry and the Chittagong Corps, should be reduced to thirty Regiments, and we left it with the Commander in Chief to carry this Order into Execution in such Manner as He might think proper, due Regard being had to our Directions that none of the Regiments that were on Foreign Service in the course of the late War should fall under the Reduction Four of the Regiments were paid off on the 1st Instant, and the fifth will be reduced upon the arrival of the 12th Carnatic Regiment at Cawnpore We agreed that the Regiment of the Ramgur Light Infantry and the independant Regiment at Chittagong should be continued on their present Footing for the Protection of those Provinces, and we were influenced to this Resolution by the Nature of the Ramgur Frontier, and the Remoteness of Chittagong from any Brigade Station

59 We resolved that the Artificers and Labourers attached to the troops without the Provinces should be kept on a War Establishment, and those attached to the Troops within the Provinces on the lowest Peace Establishment, and we directed that every staff appointment constituted since the 1st January 1776 should be annulled But, as this Part of the reform was not meant to be final, we instructed the Commander in Chief if he should find it necessary to recommend the Re-establishment of any such reduced Staff, to assign his reasons for so doing, and describe with the minutest detail all the Duties required to be performed by them

60 The Commander in Chief observed to us on receiving this Order, that in July 1783 a Reduction of the Staff of the Army took place at our Recommendation by which every Office that could be dispensed with, was abolished, but that to give us every possible Assistance in our desired Work of Reformation, and to conform as far as depended on him to our Views, he had drawn up Lists of the Staff Officers of the Army at the Period fixed on by the Board and at the present Time, from which it would appear that there were in 1776 Officers not now existing, and some that have been since created, most of which have had their Rise either in the Change of the Constitution of the Service, or in the Division of the Army into large Detachments Of the latter Class, he informed us, were the Staff to the Detachment under

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Colonel Sir John Cumming at Futtighur and Lieut Colonel Ahmuty at Chunar and of the former he acquainted us were the Adjutants to the Sepoy Regiments and to the Company of Rangers and the Staff to the Brigade of Artillery: all of which being necessary to the regular carrying on the public Duties could not be dispensed with.

61 The Commander in Chief observed to us further that there were two Appointments of new Creation beyond the Provinces that of Paymaster General and Commissary General, which being Civil Offices the Board could best determine on their utility He took Notice that the Office of Adjutant General was first established in the person of Lt Colonel Hannay in 1774, after whose Resignation of it in 1776 it lay dormant until the arrival of Sir Eyre Coote who revived it The General mentions that in this Reduction of Staff in July 1783 we had directed that this Office should be in Suspense but that we permitted Captain Murray to act and to draw the Allowances annexed to it and that as this Staff Officer was an Assistant to the Commander in Chief indispensably necessary to the conducting the Detail of the Army he recommended that the Office should be fully established and Captain Peter Murray confirmed in it as he had acted in the Capacity for nearly three Years and as well as to the General's satisfaction as his own Credit.

62 The Commander in Chief acquainted us that such being the State of the Staff as he had communicated it to us he had deferred annulling any appointments until we should send him our further Instructions.

[64] We came to a Resolution that the comparative statement which had been delivered in by the Commander in Chief of the General and particular Staff of the Army in January 1776 and January 1785 together with its increase and decrease between those Periods, should be sent to the Secretary to the Military Department, who should compare the same with the General Returns of the Army and deliver in his Report thereon This Report has been received but no Orders have been yet finally passed on the Subject of it.

64 It was agreed that when the Commander in Chief should have completed the Establishment enjoined by our Resolutions of Reform from the Officers in the several Ranks who then composed the General List of the Army including the Corps of Surgeons an Option should be allotted to the Junior Classes of Supernumerary Officers and Surgeons of each Rank and to all other Officers and Surgeons of the Army to continue in the Service or return to Europe without Prejudice to their Rank on half Pay if they preferred the same in England or on full Pay if they should prefer the same in Bengal.

65. Their leave of absence is to continue for three Years from their arrival in England on the condition of their returning to the Service at the Expiration of that Period or sooner if they are called upon so to do by Your Honourable Court. Officers availing themselves of the Liberty thus granted to them to return home are to notify to you the Day of their arrival, and, if not required to return before the Expiration of three Years

after that Day, they are to signify their intention to you in due time whether it be to remain in England or return to Bengal and, in Failure thereof, they are to lose all pretensions to the Service.

66 In passing this Resolution we have reserved to ourselves the Power of preventing any Officer from availing himself of it, who is not ready to declare upon Oath that his Fortune does not exceed the Specific Sum described in the Regulations for the late Lord Clive's Military Fund as sufficient to preclude the Enjoyment of that Bounty

67 All Officers desirous of returning to England under these Conditions during the present Season, are to signify the same to the Commander in Chief before the 1st April, and those who may wish to return under the same Conditions in the next Season, are to notify the same to him two Months before the Period of their intended Embarkation.

68 A few Officers have in Consequence of these Resolutions proceeded to Europe by the Ships of the present Year The saving arising from the Batta, Tent Money, contingent Expence, and half net pay of Officers adopting such a Permission will be considerable We shall take care that your Finances at home shall not be much burthened by this Resolution.

69 The Commander in Chief has lately informed us that a Question has been submitted to him by several of the Officers of the Army whether such as cannot avail themselves of the offer of Government for going to Europe on their Pay, owing to their possessing a larger Sum of Money than is limited, may be permitted to retire on Furlough without Pay, and he has referred the same to our Decision, observing that for his own Part, he thought this Indulgence might be granted as it would probably be the means of relieving the Service from many Supernumerary Officers without the smallest Expence to the Company.

70 After mature Consideration of this Proposition we have Agreed to it, and published our Permission in General Orders that Officers, whose Circumstances preclude them from taking the prescribed Oath, may return to Europe without Pay for the Time and under the Circumstances laid down for Officers going home either on full or half Pay, reserving to ourselves the discretionary Power of not complying with their Applications if we should see proper

[71] We resolved on disbanding all the Sebundy Corps within the Provinces, and in order to secure the Collection of the Revenues and maintain the Peace of the Country, it was agreed that four Brigade Regiments should be stationed at Boggah, Dinajepore, Dacca and Midnapore These Regiments will be kept in constant movement, but never divided into Parties of less than the Command of an European Officer The Regiments are actually arrived at the above Stations.

[72] They are to be relieved twice in the year from their respective Brigades, Viz in the Months of April and November, to be kept in the Field during the above Period, and to form a constant interchange of relief

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between their respective Posts.

[73] As the inferior Services of the Departments under the Management of the Board of Trade and Committee of Revenue may occasionally require other Aids than those which have been provided for by our present Resolutions We desired them to give us an Account of the Number of Peons and Pikes that they will absolutely and indispensably want, and an Estimate of the Expence thereof rated at the least possible Charge Such Peons and Pikes are to be selected from the reduced Sepundies, and are to wear a Badge to distinguish them from others on private service These accounts and Estimates have not been yet received.

[74.] We resolved that the provision now in force for the native Warrant Officers and others of the Brigade Corps that were before reduced be extended also to the Brigade Corps that are reduced by our present Reform, and to such of the Officers of the reduced Sepundy Corps as have formerly served in the Brigade Corps and have been transferred on account of Sickness or Wounds to the Sepundy unless these Officers should desire in Lieu thereof to accept a Gratuity of three Months Full Pay and Batta of the Stations to which they respectively belonged and with it a final discharge from the Service in which case the same are to be granted them.

[75] All Vacancies that may occur in future in the native Corps yet maintained are to be supplied from the native Officers of the disbanded Brigade Regiments and the Commander in Chief has been required to establish the most impartial Mode of draughting them with this only Exception that the Native Warrant and Non-Warrant Officers of the several Regiments that served in the Malwa Campaign are to have a priority of admission.

[76] None of the Regiments or Native Staff Officers that have been on Foreign Service in the course of the late War are to fall under the Reduction lately ordered and the Commander in Chief has been desired to furnish us regularly with monthly Returns and Casualty Lists of all the Supernumerary Warrant and Non Warrant reformed Officers of the several reduced Regiments.

[77] We have resolved that the present Bounty allowed to Recruits from the King's Service be increased to that given to the Company's Vizt 40 Sicca Rs. to each Man for three Years but that this Resolution be not published but communicated to the Recruiting Officers thro the Commander in Chief in Order that they may avail themselves of it before the Men shall embark for Europe after having received their orders for doing so We conceive that this Indulgence being for the General Good of the Service is strictly consistent with the Prohibition contained in his Majesty's Orders.

[78] We gave Orders for the Reduction of the Corps at Benares Commanded by Capt Thomas Hogan that at Buxar under Major Eaton and that at Jellawore under Capt Hamilton on the 1st of the present month, and the same have been reduced accordingly

Cons. 15th
Feby 1795

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The Duties of the disbanded Corps at Benarès are performed by a Battalion detached for that purpose from Chunar, and a suitable Detachment is to be sent from the Midnapore Station to Jellasure.

[79] The Native Officers and Men of the Body Guard of Infantry under the Command of Lt Polhill were to be made over to the Vizier, if his Excellency should chuse to receive them into his pay, the Nabob accounting for the Arms and Stores, excepting the Ordnance which is to be delivered into the Magazine at the nearest Station, and if his Excellency should not chuse to receive them, this Corps also was to be reduced on the 1st of March. We understand that the Nabob has availed himself of the Option so offered, and received the Men into his Service

Cons. 15th
Feb'y 1785

[80] One of the Regiments of Sepoys at Midnapore was Ordered to Barrackpore, to assist in performing the Duties at the Do Presidency, which would be considerably encreased by the Reduction of the Sebundy Corps, but it has since been found necessary to send one of the Battalions Back to Midnapore, a single Regiment being in sufficient for the Duties of that Station

[81.] Having understood that the Native Invalid Troops now composed a very considerable Body, and that the Greater Do Part was capable of doing Garrison Duty, and might be employed in furnishing Escorts for Military Stores and Treasure proceeding by Water Transport, besides furnishing Garrisons to the internal Military Stations of Buxar, Patna, Monghyr, and Muxadavad the Commander in Chief was requested to take the subject into consideration, and, if the Proposition should be approved by him, to form a Suitable Disposition of the European and Native Invalids We at the same Time agreed that the Command of the Military Posts of Buxar and Patna should be retained by Majors Eaton and Hardy, that invalid Officers should be appointed to the other Stations, and that the Officers commanding should conform to the Regulations which were in Force for furnishing Escorts by the late Militia and Sebundy Corps

[82] The Measure which we have alluded to, was further purposed because the Adoption of it would be attended with no additional Charge to what is now actually incurred and because it would give the Means of exonerating the Brigade Corps from the necessity of furnishing Detachments and petty Escorts, and so far forth their Discipline might be otherwise relaxed

[83] The Commander in Chief gave his Concurrence to the general proposition for employing the Native Invalids, but observed that the Number of these Men capable of doing Duty would not be found sufficient for the purpose desired, that many of the Duties at present performed by the Sebundy Corps at Patna, Moorshedabad and the Presidency were such as to require active Men, and that upon an Average the Guards employed at each of these Places amounted to 300 Sepoys, a number which could not be supplied by the

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Invalids, were they fit for such Service but the Commander in Chief was of opinion that altho they would not serve for Guards where activity was required they might be usefully employed in furnishing Escorts for Military Stores and Treasure by Water Transport.

[84] With respect to the European Invalids the Commander in Chief observed that they were stationed at Chunar and at the Presidency and could be of no use out of Garrison, but he proposed that one of the two Companys now in the Old Fort should be sent to Buxar where he believed there were Quarters for their Accommodation. The General suggested that this European Force would give a respectable Appearance to the Garrison, and answer in some Degree the Purpose of the Reduced Corps, so far as related to the defence of the Place.

[85] Our resolutions have been conformable to the General's opinion and Recommendation and to our own Proposition as far as it was not affected by either and the Commander in Chief has been directed to make a Suitable Disposition in consequence of the Invalid Corps.

[86] As the great sources of Military Expences were in Elephants Camels, Bullocks Hospital Charges Military Stores Garrison and Surveying Charges &c. &c. or in other words the Extraordinaries of the Army the Commander in Chief was requested to furnish us with a Statement of the Reserve of Elephants and Draught and Carriage Bullocks which he might deem indispensably requisite to be maintained for the Service of the Troops quartered within the Provinces on a Peace Establishment specifying also the most proper Stations at which they should be kept up.

[87] We have been furnished by the Commander in Chief in consequence of this requisition with a Statement of the reserve of Elephants, Camels, and Draught and Carriage Bullocks which he deemed absolutely necessary to be kept up for the use of the Army both within and without the Provinces. These are

Draft and Carriage Bullocks	3291
Elephants	150
Camels	90

The present Establishment	
of Bullocks is	4074
of Elephants	250
and of Camels	142

The Reduction which the Commander in Chief thought might safely be made of each is as follows

Bullocks	783
Elephants	100
Camels	52

But as the Elephants are furnished by a Contract which will not expire for two Years he recommended that the Camels now employed under the Agents should be all discharged and the Surplus Elephants distributed

in their Room

[88] After having maturely considered the Commander in Chief's Proposal, and inspected the General Orders issued in April 1770, ascertaining the Establishment of Draught Bullocks at that Period, as well as some Memorandums which have been laid before us of the Draught and Carriage Bullocks for a Brigade in the Field on a War Establishment, and for two Brigades in the Provinces on a Peace Establishment in 1776, we have resolved that the number of Draught and Carriage Bullocks recommended by the Commander in Chief to be allotted to the Troops without the Provinces should remain so till further orders Viz

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At Futt'y Ghur	400	Draft	328	Carriage	..	728
At Cawnpore	600	„	500	„	..	1,100
Chunar	250	„	257	„	.	507

2,335

[89.] We have also resolved that 836 Draft and Carriage Bullocks be allotted for the service of the Artillery and Troops stationed within the Provinces, and distributed as the Commander in Chief shall judge most proper, that the Commandant of Artillery shall select from the Draft and Carriage Bullocks Train such Bullocks as appear to him fittest for the Service of the Artillery and Army on the reduced Establishment, and that the most unfit only be rejected, that the reduced Bullocks be immediately disposed of by Public Sale, that all the Camels now in the Service be discharged, that none be employed hereafter without our Orders, and that the Elephants furnished by contract be distributed by the Commander in Chief to the several Corps composing the Army for Carriage of the Camp Equipage and such other Services as not only Elephants but Camels have heretofore been employed on

[90] Your Military Paymaster General has been directed to prepare for our Inspection a comparative Statement of the Expences of the Army on its former Establishment, and of the Expences of the Army under the new Reductions. He has also been ordered to transmit to us a regular List of all the Civil and Military Servants of the Company who are paid in his Department, with a Statement of the Pay and Allowances of every kind drawn by each on the 1st of the present Month

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[91] The Military Secretary has been Ordered to obtain from the Paymaster General and lay before us a Peace Establishment of the whole Army and Garrisons in all their Branches, stating the Expence of every nature for one Month. This Account however cannot be completed in a satisfactory Manner until all our Military Reductions shall have been finished, and taken Effect

[92.] In order that we might be enabled to extend our Retrenchments to the Surveying Branch, we called upon the Chief Engineer and Surveyor

Cons. 19th Feby
1785 General to furnish us with a Report of all Officers employed on Survey or receiving Allowances of Surveyors specifying at the same Time the particular Services on which they were engaged and we required from the proper Officer a Statement of the allowances whether fixed or contingent that are paid to such Officers.

[93] Having received the Report that we desired from the Chief Engineer and Surveyor General we have recalled all Surveyors from the last Day of the present month We have ordered that their Allowances do cease from that period and that no Persons be employed on this Duty in future hnt by special order of the Board

Cons. 8th
March 1785

[94.] We have also resolved that no Allowances be granted from the end of the present Month to Engineer Officers excepting their Pay and Batta unless by Order of the Board for particular Services.

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[95] It appears from a statement delivered to us by the Commissary General that the allowances fixed or contingent paid to officers employed on Survey or receiving those of Surveyors amount by the latest Bill to no less a sum than Rs. 17 405-8 per Month

[96] We have been furnished on our requisition with a return of the Corps of Engineers, and the Commissary General has been directed to offic thereto the monthly allowances given to each officer attached to it.

[97] We have called upon the Paymaster General to lay before us the Establishments allowed to the Chief Engineer and to the Commandant and Barrack Master of Fort William as well as a state of the Contingencies drawn by these Officers, the same have been delivered in accordingly and will soon come under our Revisal.

[98] We have now closed the Abstract of our Proceedings as far as they have gone in our Consideration of the Retrenchments which should be effected in your Military Service and we trust that they will be honored with your approbation of them.

[99] We are sorry to inform you that the Statements of the actual Resources and Disbursements Dobts and Arrears of your Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay which we requested might be transmitted to us on a similar Plan with the same accounts under this Government so early as at the close of the year 1781 and in February 1782 and which we have since demanded have never yet been transmitted to us according to the Plan required. One of our reasons for restricting your Presidency of Fort St. George from drawing upon Us in the unrestrained manner which they had before practised was to compel them to make up the Statements desired from them

[100] With the accounts of all your Presidencies and Settlements in Asia before us upon one uniform Plan of construction we could decide with Justice in appropriating every surplus Resource of this Government according to the superior Pressure of the local Exigencies of your Service in any particular Quarter If you will be pleased to observe that the Amount

of unsatisfied Demands upon the Treasury of Bengal, and for which Treasury or Exchequer Orders have been already issued, was on the 1st of last month 139 Lacks of Rupees exclusive of your Bonded Debt, and without including all the arrears to your Army, and, if you will be pleased to consider further, that the season of the heavy Collection of your Revenues precedes the Month of February, you will, after a calm Attention to these Considerations, be disposed to admit that the utmost precaution was necessary in applying any part of your growing Revenue or Income to the undefined wants of your other Settlements. Indeed we have much reason to believe that the very extraordinary Efforts made by your Government of Bengal to relieve the Carnatic and Bombay had a tendency to render your Administrations in those Establishments less solicitous with respect to their local Resources, in a general but mistaken confidence that Bengal could afford never failing supplies. In all situations of Disbursements it is dangerous to confide in undefined Resources, and the best security for real Oeconomy is a certain knowledge of the sums to be expended and the limits beyond which no possible aid is to be expected. Upon this principle we shall always endeavour to give you a clear statement of the Nett Revenue and Income of this Government, of the Amount of our disbursements under their respective heads of established contingent, and commercial. The surplus or deficiency that will exist will be the result of these Accounts. The Prospect then presented to Us, from the General view of your Resources, Disbursements, and Debts over all India, and for liquidating your Burthens in Europe will afford you the most useful information, and we trust that it will encourage the State, whose Interests and Funds are so inseparably connected with those of the Company, to render them every service in order to support their Credit amidst the shocks of a Distress oppressing them in common with the Nation at large, and which has been fortunately as General throughout India and Europe among our Enemies and Rivals as the Influence of the late War has been very extensive.

[101] The late Act of Parliament has prescribed the limits of our territorial Ambition in India.³ The Justice and Policy, which dictated and established those limits, must likewise have resolved on a firm maintenance of your present Possessions, and left with us an implied Authority for opposing all attacks that may be made, and this with the whole Credit and Force of the British Nation. Such at all Events, shall be our Comment to the Native states of India upon restrictions wisely imposed upon us by the late Act of Parliament against extending our Dominions, or making War against our Neighbours. We shall explain to those Powers that Great Britain is fully satisfied with the Extent of her possessions in Asia, and, as it may be difficult for them to discriminate the Principle of this unusual Moderation from a System proceeding from weakness or an apprehension from their own superior Force, We shall endeavour to make them sensible that, while you restrained, you fortified our hands, and that the Parent State in Europe will afford us the utmost assistance to maintain the

Possessions which you hold in this Country and to which we do not desire to make any addition. It will be necessary not only to declare to them and if requisite to carry that declaration into Force that if any of their States shall presume to commence unjust Hostilities against us or our Allies from a misconstruction of our moderation we shall carry War into the Invader's Country on the same system of Warfare which they practise amongst themselves, and which lately proved so Rumours to your Interests in the Carnatic

[102] We have thought it necessary to give you this communication of our Sentiments on Points which tho' of a political Nature are so closely involved in and connected with the Business of your Finances that it is difficult to form a just opinion relative to the One without ascertaining the Solidity of the other In discharging our Duty to you in this Department by our Endeavours to regulate and reduce your Expences we should give but an imperfect Idea of our Labors without explaining to you [in] every shape the leading Principle of our Conduct the difficulties we have to encounter on every hand the great Aim at which our Exertions are directed, and the co-operative Support which it is not only necessary for you to give us but to obtain for us from the State for regulating and maintaining the credit of the Public Finance in India for upon that Credit does the safety of your Possessions in India depend To the State of your Credit and Finances at all your Presidencies in the dangerous Crisis of 1781/2 you cannot but have maturely attended At that Crisis your Treasuries at Bombay at Fort St George and even at Fort William were completely exhausted the Amount of your Military Disbursements under this Presidency alone in the years 1781/2 greatly exceeded its Nett Revenues. Under the Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay you will find that little Revenue was collected if you compare the Amount with their Expences From the year 1781 to this Period it must appear at first sight extraordinary how Resources could be provided equal to the Amount of your Expenditures when the actual Military Expence of each of your Presidencies within that Period independently of every other Expence amounted to perhaps double the Nett Produce of all your Revenues in India. Whence then has the surplus Expence been defrayed and where have the funds been provided which enabled your Servants to carry on your affairs till a general Peace was established You will find the answer to this Question in the aggregate Amount of your own Debts in Europe, your Bonded Debt in India together with the current Debts of your Treasuries not bearing Interest and the present Arrears of your Civil and Military Service in all your principal Settlements and Factories in Asia.

[103] It must have struck you with surprize how this Government could have anticipated a Credit and sustained Operations equal to so extraordinary a Creation of Bonded and Current Debt You will find the explanation of these unparalleled circumstances in that salutary measure which was adopted by this Government in the Year 1782 and announced to your Hon ble Court in the General Letter of the 8th April 1782 in your

Secret Department We mean the measure of the Subscription Investment, a measure which, in the first instance, produced an immediate Resource to your Government of near a Crore of Rupees (CRs 99,75,000) A measure which in its secondary Consequences has kept in continual Exercise the manufacturing Industry of these Provinces, and which on reduced original Prices has loaded your numerous Ships with Cargoes for the Europe Market and in return for which the Bills drawn upon you to the Amount of Current Rupees 2,92,90,503-11-2 have produced a very important Fund in India for the purposes of the War, while we have to hope that the Duties and Customs produced to the Company, and the State from Investments provided by these Bills will more than secure the means for ultimately reimbursing the Bill holders, and yield time for a general Liquidation of the Debt by Commercial Profits We do not dwell upon the public Good, which has in so many shapes arisen from the measure of the Subscription Investment of 1782, and of succeeding Investments by Bills, with any other view than that of holding out to you this important consideration, that it can only be from a Similar Remedy and arrangement in future against similar distresses with those of the Crisis at that Period that you can expect support to your Credit and an extrication from your difficulties

[104] If you will be pleased for a moment to suppose that the measure of providing the Subscription Investment of 1782, had not been adopted, you will admit that the reverse of every beneficial Consequence to your Affairs which arose from that measure might have ensued. From the moment that Your Treasury in Bengal was empty, that your power of borrowing upon Bond had ceased, it is evident that, as the expences of the Bengal Government exceeded it's Nett Revenue and Income, no Supply could be sent from Bengal to Madrass or Bombay. Your Indiamen must have returned home without Cargoes, and at an immense Expence to the Company; the Nation would have lost the Customs and Returns of the Indian Commerce, and the private Fortunes of Individuals, multiplying in Acquisition with the extent of your Military Operations, would have only added to the Resources of Foreign States in passing to Europe thro' the medium of Foreign Commerce, or have drained your own Provinces of the last Spark of their Vital Resource in the Exportation of its remaining Specie Bills drawn upon Your Hon'ble Court in 1782, unless they had been secured in the public Opinion of your Servants by a supposed Mortgage of Goods, would not have produced 10 Lacks of Rupees for your Treasury Indeed every mode of raising Money by Drafts in Europe and Annuities had been attempted till the Effect had proved the Experiment to be useless

[105] Upon a due consideration of these Truths we doubt not but you will see a Relief to the present Embarrassments of your public Credit by opening, extending, and improving the Channel of your Investment and Commerce The Influx of private Acquisitions will then lend an Aid to the State in a manner equally conducive to the Public and Private

convenience or in other words to render the Profits of the latter what they ever ought to be the natural means for the Support of the former

[106] Having taken into our particular consideration the State of the Public Credit of this Government, and wishing to grant every Security in our power to the Company's Engagements with their Creditors and especially those Creditors who lent their Property to the Company in Times of Public Distress we have resolved and notified that the Interest on the Bond Debt will not only be regularly paid in future but when we shall be authorized to draw more Bills than are at this time actually pledged, upon your Honble Court that a Preference will be given to the Wishes of the Bond Creditors to receive Payment by Bills of a Year's sight for half the amount [of] Interest that may be then respectively due to them

[107] In considering the present State of our Resources the heavy demands upon our Treasury and the feeble means that we possess for supplying the urgent Wants of your other Presidencies we feel a serious concern in the Intelligence that we have received from the necessities of your Service at Canton. Your Supra Cargoes have applied to us with Earnestness for a Remittance to enable them to send you a Suitable Investment in the next Year but they have neglected to furnish Us with any Statements We yet learn from private Advices of so late a date as the 20th December that they have received from Europe and India no more than the sum of £ Sterling 1 50 000 to provide Cargoes for 12 Ships that of this Sum only £ 1 00 000 have been yet actually paid into their Treasury and that having provided complete Cargoes for your Ships (We suppose the ships of the last Season) they are left in Debt to the Merchants for upwards of £ 2 90,000 It will be the earliest object of our Attention after the Dispatch of the Hinchinbrooke to ascertain in what manner we can administer even the smallest Relief to their Wants, but we fear that the more we dwell upon this Subject the more we shall be forced to see the Impossibility of doing what our Inclinations induce us so strongly to effect.

[108] By the last General Statement which We have received from Fort St. George the amount of the Bond Debt of that Presidency on the 1st July 1784 was

Principal Star Pagodas	11,85 012 3-14
of their Arrears Civil and Military	27,38 001 20-10

Star Pagodas 39,24,033-32 24

[109] According to the last Statements received from Bombay transmitted to us under Date the 8th November 1784 the amount of the Bond and Arrear Debt of that Presidency exclusive of the Arrears due on Mr Commissary Ravenscroft's Accounts were as follows

The former stood at the enormous Sum of	2 12 11 168-0-05
The latter was computed to be	45 13,359-0-03

2,57,24 517 1-03

[110] You cannot but be fully informed of the manner in which the Bond Debt of the Presidency of Bombay has accumulated to so extraordinary a Magnitude Your request to us contained in your Letter of the 28 Jany 1784 Pr. Mansfield to take into our consideration the transfer of the Bond Debt of Bombay to this Presidency has not been Neglected in our general deliberation and it has been in frequent contemplation with us to devise some practicable, comprehensive, and equitable Plan for the gradual Liquidation of all your Burthens in India To this End we wished to ascertain the exact Amount of all your Bonded Debts, From the recapitulation which We have given of them and the exact State of your Bonded Debt under this Government, the amount of the whole is now placed in your View.

[111.] Exclusive of this aggregate Burthen the unsatisfied demands

For this calculate 100 Star	upon our Treasury amounting on the 1st Feby last	
Pagodas are considered equal to ARS 400 and 100 Bombay Rupees equal to 100 Siccas	to	1,39,37,569- 5-0
	and in the Civil and Military	
	Arriars of the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay form a collective Debt of	1,70,64,051-12-3

Curt Rs 3,10,01,621- 1-3

[112] It is a question of the first Moment to ascertain a Fund to provide for the Annual Interest of these Bonded Debts, and yet our first Attention is called to the Liquidation of the current Demands of the Service in your respective Presidencies

[113] By the account already transmitted to you of the ways and means of this Government calculated to the 1st of May next, you must have observed that there was a Deficiency in our Resources, compared with our Expenditure amounting to Curt Rs 1,49,01,433-11-11 The deficiency of resources, marked in similar Estimates for former Years, has generally been exceeded by the Issue, and we are Apprehensive that upon the nicest Calculation, it will be found on the 1st May next that the utmost We have to hope will be the Verification of the Estimate of the Resources and Disbursements for the Year 1785/6 will afford you a more flattering Prospect, and our realization of that Estimate, Viz from the 30th Apl 1785 to the 1st May 1786 will form the best Criterion for deciding your Expectations relative to your Resources and Burthens in India.

[114] We are determined to meet the Labour and Duty before us with a Temper, Circumspection, and Firmness suited to the Occasion, and which can alone ensure success The first Steps to that success are already taken, but it rests with your Honourable Court, and the Superior Administration of the State at Home, to arrange Measures for the eventual and complete success of the Undertaking of which we have begun the primary arrangement

[115] The total amount of your Bonded and Current Debts in India is either the Property of your own Servants, of Natives living, under your

Protection or of British subjects connected with your Commerce or whose Relations have served in this Country Hence it follows that any Arrangement, which would provide in Europe for a regular Liquidation of the Interest of these Claims at 5 P Cent would afford a better prospect to the Creditors in General than any Accommodation that would hold forth a Certainty of paying the larger Legal Interest of this Country VIZ. 8 P Cent at Bengal, and Fort St George and 9 P Cent at Bombay

[116] The Company as Dr^t for the whole amount of their Bonded Debts would save the Difference of Interest by any arrangement which made that Interest payable in Europe The consideration is therefore of Importance whether an encrease of your Investment to the Amount of the full Interest of your Bonded Debt would not enable you to obtain more than an annual Fund for the discharge of that Interest at Home at 5 or Perhaps 4 Per Cent every Risque and Expeunce in the Provision of such additional Investment being inclusively provided for The saving would we trust in the End prove so great as to become a fund for the gradual liquidation of the Principal. We doubt not but it would prove upwards of £ 2 00 000 a Year On an extended Plan the benefits would probably encrease in proportion to its Extent if the utmost Care were taken in the Provision of such an additional Investment.

[117] By the Estimate already alluded to the annual Interest of your Bonded Debt at Bengal and Fort St. George is 17 09,120-14-10 Lacs or thereabouts, that of Bombay 19 68 394-14 2 Lacs. Unless the half of this money laid out in a proper selection of India Goods would more than provide a certain Fund for discharging the Interest of your India Bonded Debts in England at 4 or 5 P Cent there can be no Profit connected with the Commerce of this Country The Natives who are Proprietors in your Bonded Debt would be happy to receive Bills annually payable in England for the Interest of their Claims, for those Bills would bear a Premium in the Market and get into Circulation with the certain value of Bank Notes in England. It is likewise well known that when the Company's Credit was in Vigour in these Provinces many of the Rich Natives were anxious to possess Company's Bonds at a low Interest in preference to any other Security for their Money Tho Permanency of Peace and Oeconomy will restore the same confidence. An enlarged and a liberal System which would at once provide for the Extension of your Commerce and the opening of your Cash in India to prevent the Acquisitions of Individuals from supplying the Funds of a Foreign and Rival Commerce, would create ultimate Funds for discharging gradually in England the full amount of Money received into your Cash in India and open a regular Channel for discharging in time the surplus and grievous weight of your Debts in Asia. It is from a System formed on the Basis of such Regulations that we expect such a corresponding Aid to our own exertions in reducing your Expences and improving your resources, as will effectually reestablish your Credit and eventually render these 'Domimonies' a Source of Permanent advantage to the British Empire without

those Risques which are ever to be dreaded from sudden convulsions of the Public Credit.

[118.] There was a period when the surplus Income of this Government exhibited a Fund which, in the course of a few Years, would have been equal to the general Liquidation of your Debts at Home and Abroad but it is difficult to draw within former Limits the increased Scale of Established Expences, and your late extensive Wars have dissipated the Vital Medium of Wealth in these Provinces to the remotest Quarters of India. We wish not at the same time to discourage your Hon'ble Court, or our Country, by a Representation of difficulties. A Rival Nation has exhibited in a Neighbouring Colony we mean the Islands of France, a ruinous yet instructive Scene in Colony Finance. A General Bankruptcy to the amount of above Two Millions Sterling has overwhelmed those Islands and, tho' the Bankruptcy happened thro' the management of a Private Individual who engrossed the Commerce and property of the Colony, the real loss devolves ultimately upon the Government of France, who are obliged to provide Funds for the Liquidation of the General Debt, or to witness the irretrievable Ruin of a Colony which in its Establishment and protection has cost them many Millions.

[119] This great Bankruptcy at Mauritius, operating in reverse upon Funds which were to be employed against your Interests from France exhibits to your Consideration a Calamity against which you ought to be secured in your own Settlements, and affords you Time for regulating and providing the means of that Security. We shall take care that your next Investment shall be in the manner directed in your Letters of the 15th March 1784. Had these advices arrived earlier the Investment of the present Year would have been provided according to the Authority which you delegated to us. Improvement in the Fabrick and Reduction in the Prime Cost of the Goods, which compose your Investment, are objects of the first Concern in rendering your Commerce a certain medium of Benefit to the Company at home, and relief to your Burthens in India. With these objects before us we must likewise consider that the prosperity of Bengal depends not upon an exclusive Monopoly of its Commerce in favour of the Company's Trade, but that Foreign Nations should have every Inducement left to them to import Specie into the Provinces in Exchange for its Manufactures and the Industry, of its Inhabitants.

[120] To this End we have it in contemplation to abolish all Customs upon the Export Trade, and to render the Import Trade from Europe equally free from Duty to all Nations who Trade to this part of the World. The Preference which British Manufactures imported here must always secure in their favour will render it necessary for Foreign Nations to import Specie.

[121] As we wish to proceed with caution in Matters of such Delicacy and Importance, and to decide upon them only in proportion as we are sure of our ground, and of your approbation, we shall at present content ourselves with merely Suggesting the Subject to you,

[122] The Disputes which we have already had with the Agents of Denmark and Holland and which we shall probably have with those of France when the French Establish their Government at Chandernagore will be made Subjects of Complaint to his Majesty's Ministers-by the Administrations of those Nations in Europe In answer to such complaints we wish Our own Court to be apprised that We consider it as the essential Interest of these Provinces that Foreign Nations should have access to Trade with them nearly on the same footing of advantage with our own Company and that to this End we are devising a General Plan for putting the Duties and Customs exacted from Foreign Trade on an equal freedom with those paid by the Company Such an Accomodation would obviate the ill Effects of a Jealousy naturally coincident with our exclusive possession of these Colonies and ultimately provide for the local prosperity of Bengal itself a prosperity in which you are more interested as the Possessors than as the Merchants of the Country

[123] We hope that We have not transgressed in Soliciting your attention to the different Subjects of this Address Various and multiplied as these are they are but the Parts of a whole which to be considered with due attention must be attended to in every Branch This being the last regular Dispatch of the Season we have endeavoured to open our Sentiments to you in the freest and most explicit manner and we Trust that Candour of our Representations will merit your Indulgence even where Your own Opinions may not exactly coincide with those which we have stated

Fort William
25th March 1785
[Per Hinchinbrooke]

We have the honour to be Honble. Sirs
Your most faithful humble Servants,
John Macpherson/John Stables/
Chas Stuart

LETTER DATED 25 MARCH 1785

Incursion of Sikhs into Rohilkhand—assurances of friendship by Mahals Sindia—Malet appointed Resident at Poona Arakan ruler demands surrender of Burmese fugitives

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

I We have the Honor to transmit to you Numbers in this Dispatch by your Ship Hinchinbrooke Copies of our Advices by the Cornwallis bearing date the 2d Instant and our Proceedings in this Department from the 10th Ultimo to the 17 of this Month with their Index

2. We were informed by Colonel Sir John Cumming under date the 11th Ultimo, that in Consequence of a Requisition from his Excellency the Vizier the probability of which has been already mentioned to your Honble Court he should march from Futtly Ghur the next Morning with two Regiments of Sepoys, the Russelah of Cavalry and the Artillery leaving one Regiment at this Station in Charge of the Cantonments and Magazine until the Arrival of a Battalion of the Nabob's Native Troops when the Regiment also would proceed to join the Detachment

3 The Colonel was still of Opinion that there was but little Ground for his Excellency's Apprehensions with Respect to the Safety of his Country, but he approved of the Movement of the Troops towards the Frontier, as, by shewing that we were ready to act, it might be a means of inducing Sindia to lay aside his hostile Intentions (if he should have formed any) upon the Viziers Dominions, and it would also secure the Country from the Ravages of the Sieks.

4 The Detachment of your Troops under Sir John Cumming arrived at Anopshur on the 23d Ultimo.

5 The Letters which we have received from that Officer, bearing Date the 23d and 27th Febr'y and transmitted Nos in the Packet will lay before you the several Circumstances that have come to his Knowledge in respect to the Invasion of the Sieks The last Letter will inform you that the Injuries done by the People in the Province of Rohilkund are by no means of so serious a Nature as was imagined and it offers reason to believe that the Vizier's Surmizes of Sindia's Connection with the Sieks for an Invasion of his Dominions were founded more on Conjecture than on Positive Authority We are led to this Remark from the following Extract of Sir John Cumming's Address to us of the 27th February "Upon my Arrival here" that is at Anoopshire "A Maharatta Vakeel waited on me with a Letter from Mulhar Baboo, a Person in great trust and Confidence with Sindia, and who rents all the Districts situated between Delhi, and this Part of his Excellency the Vizier's Dominions The Letter assures me (as did the Vakeel verbally) that the Maharattas have given Orders to all those dependent on their Government to afford every possible assistance in point of Supplies to our Troops, whether encamped on their Frontiers or passing thro' any part of their Districts, which on the Side of the River are in many places much better blended with those of the Vizier "

6 Colonel Sir John Cumming adds that understanding that the March of the Troops from Futtly Ghur had alarmed Sindia and the Maharatta Government he had judged it necessary in his Letter to Mulhar Baboo, and in Conversation with the Vackeel, to give the strongest Assurances of the Friendship and Attachment of our Government towards the Maharattas. Sir John Cumming had also desired him to inform Mahajee Sindia that the sole Object of the March of Your Detachment was the Defence of the Vizier's Frontiers from the Incursions of the Sieks, and, should the Sieks come down in such Force that the Maharatta Troops on the Frontier should be unable to repel them that he was ready to assist them

against the Sicks as a Proof of the Friendship of the English Government towards the Pnteel.

7 We are advised by the Colonel that on the Morning of his Arrival at Anoopshur he received a Letter from Major Palmer written by Order of the Vizier acquainting him that, the Sicks having retreated his Continuance in that Quarter with the Troops that marched with him from Fatty Ghur could be no longer necessary and enclosing a Requisition from his Excellency for his Return to Fatty Ghur leaving Lieut. Colonel Knudson with two Regiments of Sepoys. The Colonel observes that he was so folly convinced of the bad Consequences that would result from this Measure, that he had represented to his Excellency in the strongest Terms the Necessity of continuing at Anoopshur at least until the 1st of April when the River would begin to rise and that it would be highly proper that Lt. Colonel Knudson with two Regiments of Sepoys, should remain on the Frontier until the 25th of that Month. Sir John Cumming appears to have urged among other Reasons for this Advice, that the Sicks who plundered Rohilcund, were then encamped near Gouz ghur at the Distance of 35 Cosse from Anoopsheer and that the Rnhy harvest, upon which the Collection chiefly depended would very soon commence that there was a frontier to defend extending upwards of 140 Miles and that two Regiments of Sepoys could not afford to send out Detachments to any Considerable Distance and that the immediate return of the Troops would not only greatly alarm all the Inhabitants of the Frontier but stamp an Impression of fluctuation in his Excellency's Councils upon all the Neighbouring Powers. Colonel Sir John Cumming has however requested Major Palmer to inform his Excellency, that if notwithstanding what he has urged the Requisition should be repeated he should think it his Duty in Obedience thereto to return to Fatty Gur

8 In a late Letter which your Governor General has received from Major Palmer bearing date the 1st Ulto that Gentleman writes as follows

The late predatory Incursions of the Sicks has been more discreditable than Injurious to the Vizier's Government. There has certainly been neglect in the Armil of Rohilcund as the Vizier Pays for a force in that Country more than Adequate to its Protection against such a displeasable Banditti as the Sicks, and the Gaults should have been properly guarded as soon as the River became fordable. The Depredations made by these free Booters fall upon Individuals, and can in no shape affect the public Revenues. They Retreated Across the Ganges on the first Appearance of the Vizier's Troops and although they are now assembled to the Number as reported, of 20 000 on the Western Shore of the Ganges I have not the least Apprehension of their Making another Attempt to penetrate into the Vizier's Dominions as Sir John Cumming detached two Regiments on the second Instant to Anoopshur and was to follow with his whole force on the 12th

Repeated and uniform Accounts have been received through the

Public News Paper, and private Intelligence, of Encouragement given to his Attack upon the Vizier's Possessions by Mahajee Sindia, and of his having engaged to support it by a Maharatta Force I did not give implicit Credit to these Reports, but the Possibility of their being true was sufficient cause for not neglecting them I therefore recommended to the Vizier to require the Actual March of the Futta Ghur Detachment and the Preparation for it of the Brigade at Cawnpore The Collections were suspended as unnecessary, since Sir John Cumming "is in the field, and Sindia has solemnly disavowed to Mr Anderson having excited the Sieks to ravage the Vizier's Country "

9. One of the last Letters which your Governor General has received from Major Palmer is dated the 24th Ultio and contains the following Paragraph. "The Sieks have entirely evacuated the Frontier of the Vizier's Dominions, and everything within them is in a State of Tranquility without the least Appearance of further Disturbance, or Obstruction in the Collections "

10 A letter has been received by the Governor General from Mr Anderson acknowledging the Arrival of those which had been addressed by himself and Mr Hastings to Mahajee Sindia, the Peshwah and Nana Furnevese on the Occasion of Mr Hastings's Departure and Mr McPherson's Accession to the Government, Your Resident acquaints us that he immediately delivered them to Mahajee Sindia who gave him Many Assurances of it's being his warmest Desire, to cultivate the same Friendship with your present that he had cultivated with your late Governor General, and a Letter which he has written to Mr McPherson is replete with these Sentiments.

11. Bow Buckchy the Minister of Mahajee Sindia has also addressed a Letter to the Governor General which is recorded on Consn. 8th March the Proceedings noted in the Margin,

12 Major Browne advises that he had received the Arzees for his Majesty Shah Allum from Mr. Hastings and Mr McPherson on the Occasion before Mentioned, and had presented them

13. The Arzies to the Shahzadda and the Letters to the Vizier and his Ministers on the same Subject had also been received Consn 8th March at Lucknow, and the answers to them which we have found very Satisfactory, appear on our Proceedings noted in the Margin.

14 The only Information that has reached us since the Period of our last Advices in respect to the Movements of the Maharattas in the upper Provinces is contained in the following Extract of a Letter from Major Browne bearing Date the 8th Instant The Killadar of Agra not having been satisfied with the Security offered him by Sindia the latter sent a Body of Troops to blockade the Place but to avoid Hostilities with the Fort if Possible However contrary to Sindia's Wishes (who was fearful that the Spirit of Opposition might spread thro' other Places) they began to fire from the Fort on the 19th of February, and the Maharattas also erecting Batteries, the Place was pretty Closely besieged. In hopes

of bringing it to a speedy Surrender Sindia marched with his Majesty from Deigh the 26th Ultio and arrived at the Place the 4th Instant since which a Negotiation for delivering up the Fort has again been set on foot and the firing almost entirely ceased

15 Major Browne concludes as follows, The 6th Instant I received Intelligence on which I think I can rely that the Siok Sirdars who lately invaded Rohilund have entered into Engagements with Sindia which bind them to assist him with Troops whenever he may require them for a Certain Subsidy But the Interests and Pretensions of the Maharattas and Sioks clash in so many points that I apprehend their Union cannot be very firm

16 Your Governor General is assured by Major Palmer that the Shazadda is disposed to conduct himself entirely by the Wishes and Advice of your present Government and to place the firmest Reliance upon the Governor's personal Kindness and Support. It is also mentioned that the Prince and the Vizier live in perfect Harmony and that the former appears to be very happy and contented in his present Situation

17 In a Letter which the Shazadda has written to Your Governor General his Royal Highness has expressed his wish that the Battalion lately Commanded by Lieutt Polhill should not be transferred to the Vizier's Service but continue in the Company's Pay and near his Person as heretofore The Answer given to this Request informs the Shazada in respectful and complimentary Terms that the Regiment at Lucknow is under his Directions and will attend him in the same Manner as that Battalion did that was under Lieut Polhill

18 We are advised that the Minister and Almas ally Cawn continue on Terms of Cordiality and Confidence and that there is not the smallest Apprehension that this Good Understanding will be interrupted since so much Encouragement has been given to both to rely on our Protection, and support whilst they discharge their Respective Duties for the advantage of the two Governments and as they know how essentially their own Honor and Interests depend upon their Zeal and Fidelity there can be no Doubt of their best Exertions.

19 A Letter was written by your Governor General to Major Palmer on the 4th Instant and is recorded on our proceedings of the 8th. This Letter was in Explanation of the Sentiments of the Board conveyed by the Governor General to the Vizier in his Letter of the 4th of March. The Vizier's Answer has been received to it and his Excellency has expressed his Satisfaction at the Resolutions of your Government that all Allowances, Pensions or Gratuities of whatever Nature paid out of His Treasury to your Civil or military Servants should be recorded in his public Accounts and that our Retrenchments should be extended to every Branch of his Excellency's Service that was conducted by them The Vizier has promised to furnish a Particular Statement of the Allowances paid out of his Treasury to those Gentlemen and it will be forwarded in Course to your Honble Court We think it proper to transmit the Governor General's Letter on this interesting Subject as well as the Vizier's Answer Now in the Packet

20. It appears by the last Advices which we have received from Your Accountant at Lucknow that the Balance due on the 1st Instant from his Excellency the Vizier to the Honble Company was Fyzd 16 Sn. So Rs 28,45,885 0 3

21. Your Governor General, on laying before us some Letters that he had received from the Vizier's Ministers and from Almass Ali Caun which enclosed Nuzzers, or usual Presents of Respect to the Station, which he fills, took this Occasion of desiring our Sentiments with Regard to the Receipt of such Presents, observing that the Question was only of Importance to himself as it stood connected with the public Credit and Interests of Government, and that in every Matter which related to that Interest in any degree he wished to consult the Opinions of his Colleagues Our Ideas upon the Subject are Separately recorded on our Consultations of the 11th and 24th Instant

22 We have resolved and given public Notice that in Consequence of the Regulations established in the late Act of Parliament, and particularly the 45th Clause thereof, which prohibits the Receipt of Presents, the Custom of receiving Nuzzers of Ceremony is to be discontinued for the future, unless Instructions to the Contrary should be received from the Company, and the Governor General has informed the Natives and Foreign Vackeel[s] that he will not in future receive any Nuzzar whatever, expressing his Hope at the same time that no Person will consider his Resolution upon this Subject as the least mark of Disrespect to those offering or sending Nuzzers

23 Your Right Honble President and Council at Fort St. George have transmitted to us a Copy of a Letter which had been addressed to their late Secretary by Lieutt Hall of their Establishment bearing date the 17th of last Month and conveying Information of a very Extraordinary Nature, but serious as the Subject of it would be if the Intelligence were well founded, we have no Hesitation in declaring our total Disbelief of the Truth of it, as it stands opposed to contrary advices of an Authentic Nature, as the Plan is incapable of Execution, and as we have good Reason to believe that Tippoo and the Maharattas have not only not made Peace but are at this Juncture at open War A Copy of Mr Hall's Letter attends you a Number in the Packet.

24 Your Governor General has written a Complimentary Letter to the Nabob Tippoo Sultan, informing him of his Accession to the Charge of the Government, of the ample Powers given to your Administration in Bengal by the last Act of Parliament, and of his Desire to continue the Peace that has lately been established with all the Country Powers

25 Our last Address to your Honble Court contained Copies of the last Letters which we had received from your Resident at Hydrabad A Continuation of them is transmitted to you with this Dispatch

26 We had the Honor to acquaint you in our General Letter of the 17th January that we had directed Lieutt Anderson to take the most

guarded Means of ascertaining whether and to what Degree the Alliance proposed with Nizam Ali Cawn would meet the Sentiments of Mahajee Sindia. Mr Anderson has received our Orders, and given us very satisfactory Reasons for having delayed the Execution of them. Consn. 8th March A Copy of his Letter is entered on our Proceedings of the 8th Instant.

27 The Governor General having acquainted us that a Nephew of Hurry Punt Furchia was arrived with many Followers [sic] at Benares on a Pilgrimage to Ghyah and had signified his Request that he and they might be exempted from the Duties that are payable at Ghyah on these Occasions, we have allowed the Exemption accordingly to the Nephew of Hurry Punt Furchia and to 800 of his Attendants including his Relations and Dewan.

28 From an Attentive Consideration of the Subject in General, and of Letters which have been received from the Collector of Ghyah, we have come to a Determination that this Public Compliment should be paid only to Individuals of high Rank in the State and to their public Officials. A discretionary Power has been lodged on Mr Anderson for this Purpose and the Collector of Ghyah has been instructed accordingly.

29 From Motives of Humanity and Policy we have Appointed one of your Servants to reside at Guyah for the express Purpose of causing the undisturbed Performance of the Religious Ceremonies of the Hindoos at that Place. The Arbitrary Vexations of the Amils and the exorbitant Demands of the Gyahwals were the great Sources of Complaint and induced the Applications for Masfy Perwannahs the Influence of which protected them. These Evils being removed an Exemption from the Duties appears to be no longer an Object.

30 Mr Law has informed us of his having communicated to Mr Anderson the limited Duties payable from each Description of Pilgrims and that Mr Anderson has acquainted him with Sindias Satisfaction therewith we have desired him to apprize Sindia of our late Resolution as contained in the 28th Paragraph of this Letter and if that Chief should express any wish to have Grievances remedied or particularized anything upon the Subject we have directed Mr Anderson to transmit an Account of it to us that it may have our favourable Attention.

31 Your President and Select Committee at Bombay have not only given their hearty Concurrence to the Appointment we proposed for Mr Malet of Resident on the Part of this Government at the Court of Ioonah but Rendered us their best thanks for so distinguished a Mark of our Attention to their Presidency and they have approved also in strong Terms of the Appointment of Mr Wilkinson to be his Assistant. Consn. 1st March Their Letter on this Subject Appears in our Proceedings noted in the Margin.

32. They have since advised us that Mr Malet was in Readiness to proceed to Surat on his way to Sindia's Camp and that they had signed his

Instructions, Copy of which attends you a No. in this Dispatch, together with the Instructions given to Captain Charles Reynolds, who had been appointed by your President and Select Committee to accompany Mr Malet on his journey Your Servants at Bombay inform us that they were led to this Measure by Repeated Recommendations of your Honble Court that every proper Opportunity should be embraced for gaining knowledge of the interior Parts of Hindostan

33. The Governor General laid before us on the 17th Instant a Letter which he had received from Mr Vansittart, the Comptroller of your Salt Department, conveying Information from Mr Calvert, the Salt Agent for the Hidgelee Division of an alarm spread thro' that District and the District of Jellalore in Consequence of the Arrival of 100 Mahatta Horse in the Pergunnah of Bograi Bograi is a Pergunnah situated on the Side of the Soutearcha River and belongs to the Maharattas The Weakness of the Party conveys a sufficient Proof that it has not been sent with any Design to plunder the Company's Districts, and it appears to us very probable that it has come to Bograi for the Mere Purpose of collecting some Money from the Zemindar of Jamcoonda, whom they were besieging with a considerable Force, from taking Shelter in Bograi.

34 . A letter has been addressed to us by the Collector at Chittagong with which he has transmitted to us the Translation of one delivered to him in the Burmah Language by the Nokedah of a Pegu Ship The Letter had been sent from Arracan by the General of the Burmahs, which had been dispatched to Arracan to reduce that Country to Obedience The Object of the Letter seems to be to claim the Restitution of two fugitives who had resorted to Chittagong Your Collector of that Province has in Consequence desired our Orders as to what Answer should be delivered to that Letter and in what manner he should conduct himself towards the fugitives should any claim of him the Company's Protection

35 We have directed him to acquaint the General of the Burmahs that it is a fixed Principle in the English Government not to deliver up any Persons who resort to it for Protection, that having adhered to this Principle for Ages he cannot expect that any Deviation from it will now be allowed of, and that his Request therefore cannot be complied with The Collector is at the same Time ordered to acquaint him that we are sensible of his Attention to the English Subjects, and of the Proof that he has thus given of his Friendship which we desire to preserve

36. On bringing these Advices to a Close we have received a Letter from Mr Bristow, your late Resident at the Vizier's Court which he has requested may be transmitted to your Honble Court a Number in this Dispatch. We could not with any Propriety refuse our Compliance with Mr Bristow's Solicitation and a Copy of his Letter attends You Accordingly with the Papers enclosed in it

37 The State of the Treasuries is as follows.

State of the Treasuries 21st March 1785

Ready Money			
General Treasury		55 790 7 8	
Khalsah		40 556 0 10	
			06 346 10 6
Bills Receivable			
General Treasury			
Khalsah	12 15 671 7 0	14 10 178.14 0	
	2 07 429.5	2 40 618	
			16 50 798.14 0
Mint			
General Treasury		-	
Khalsah		-	
Unsorted Treasure			
Khalsah			
from Burbhoom	Ra. 10 000		
	Valued at 10 Pr Ct.		
	better than CRa.		11 000
		Current Rupee.	17,58 143 0.3
Balance Accounts deposits		6 43 704 6 8	
Do Account Genl. to the			
Mayors Court		1,20 161 13 0	
Do of the old Bonded Debt	}		
on which the Interest			
has ceased by public		15 117 8	
Advertisement			
Now Bonded Debt at 8 Pr Cent			
		1,57,26,907 12 11	
11 Per Cent Remittance Loan		8,50 840	
Annulities			
			1 73,92 731 -

Errors Excepted
(Signed) Chas. Croftes

Fort William
25th March 1785.
[Per Hinchinbrooke]

We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs
Your most faithful Humble Servants
John Macpherson, John Stables Chas.
Stuart.

LETTER DATED 31 MARCH 1785

[Foreign Department]

Territorial restitutions to the French

TO Thomas Morton, Esquire Secretary to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Sir,

The Packets from the Governor General and Council for the Hon'ble Court of Directors per Ship Hinchinbrooke having been closed and transmitted from Calcutta, I have orders to acquaint you by this subsequent Dispatch that the Governor General and Council have just received Information from Fort St. George that Pondicherry was delivered up to the French, and Cuddalore restored to the English on the 1st ultimo, and that since that time the Cessions to the French of Villanour and Bahour as also of Karical and the 4 Magans have taken place. The Right Hon'ble the President and Council at Fort St George advise however that there are some Points which yet remain to be adjusted relative to the Right Claimed by the French to a small barren Island in the River of Nagore, to some trifling Tuncans of the Havilly Pergunna and Cusbah of Waldour near Pondicherry, and also to an Exemption of Customs in the Northern Circars but that they should endeavour to settle these Matters to the best of their Judgement in the manner most consonant to Treaty, to Justice and the Interests of the Company.

You are requested to communicate this Intelligence to the Hon'ble Court of Directors and to acquaint them at the same time that authentic information has been received by the Governor General of Trincomalay having been restored to the Dutch and that the French Garrison lately at that place had arrived at Pondicherry.

The Governor General and Council have directed me to observe in this Letter that the Delay which was permitted in Carrying into Execution the several articles concerning the East Indies, as well in the Definitive Treaty with France, as in the Preliminaries with the States General, the accomplishment of one Treaty being connected with that of the other has been productive of some loss to Bengal in having been the occasion of detaining Three Dutch East India Men at Batavia which the Governor General and Council at that Settlement had intended to have dispatched to this River with a considerable quantity of Specie for the Re-establishment of their trade.

The Measures taken by the Board in November last to prevent

further delays, none of which had been warranted by their Order or Authority in this important Business have of course removed the apprehension of the Detch.

The sources of Profit to all the Servants of the Dutch East India Company which depend chiefly if not totally upon their Commerce in the East Indies having been stopped and indeed entirely done away during the late War their personal Interests are so much Involved in the Continuance of the present peace that they dread the possibility however distant of a renewal of War between the two Nations and are of course disinclined to any sure connections with France as might render the Established Tranquility precarious and the Governor General and Council have reason to believe that the principal servants in the Administration of Dutch affairs in Asia have represented or will represent to the superier Administration of their Coentry The Ills that would accrue from further Hostilities and recommend the Continuance of Peace upon almost any Conditions with the Court of London.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

Edward Hay

[Secretary]

Fort William

31st March 1785

45

LETTER DATED 29 APRIL 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

*China trade exchange of Nagapatam for the port of Malacca—
Company's debts*

TO the Hon ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies

Hon ble Sirs,

I Since our address to your Honble Court of the 20th March in the Secret Department of Inspection and Retrenchment a Copy of which is sent a Number in this Packet Our attention has been principally engaged in endeavouring to form Arrangements for the permanent support of your Trade and Credit at Canton and to establish such a system on the solid principles of Commerce as would ultimately relieve you from the heavy Burthen of your Bonded Debts at your different Presidencies in India retain the Current Specie in these Provinces and secure to the Parent state lasting advantages from the Trade of Asia.

2. In considering the best means of maintaining and improving your Trade with the Chinese We have supposed that the measures which were lately adopted in England for the Reduction of Duties upon Tea will inevitably lead to the encrease of your Sales in that Branch of Commerce and that you will of course destine a greater number of your Ships than usual to the Port of Canton. It follows as a natural consequence, that your Credit in China will demand a more enlarged Support, nor is there any Quarter from which that Support can be had more obviously than from your Government of Bengal.

3 Your Supercargoes at Canton have only made to us a general Representation of their wants We understand however from private Information that the native Merchants of that City are in Advance to them in no less a Sum than two Hundred and Ninety Thousand Pounds Sterling It is therefore essential for your Interest that the Credit of the Company should be maintained completely in the Estimation of the Chinese Merchants A further Exportation of Specie from these Provinces can on no account be attempted nor can any of your other Presidencies afford to send the Aid of the Commercial Supplies to your Factory at Canton and we have reason to apprehend that Private Remittances which have hitherto furnished a very considerable Fund for the Support of your China Trade have of late been very insufficient for that Purpose

4. Having taken all these Circumstances into our particular Consideration and being sincerely anxious to enable you to realize your Expectations from your Commerce with China and with a View to preventing heavy drafts upon your Treasury in Europe We have issued a publication and circulated it thro' all your Settlements offering the Opium of November next for Cash paid into your Treasury at Canton to Supply the Cargoes for your China Ships of the approaching Season

5 How far this Proposal and the encouragement which it holds out will be productive of the relief intended by them We cannot yet venture to pronounce but we are determined, in case you shall approve the measure, to apply the Proceeds of the Opium Manufacture in future to the exclusive Business of your China Trade

6. We have the Honour to enclose a Copy of a Minute which your Governor General has delivered on this Subject with copies of the Plans enclosed in it, and to recommend them to your particular attention Our opinions on them will attend you with the next dispatch.

7. The next object that has claimed our Attention, and been already mentioned in the first part of this Address, is the Establishment of such a System on the solid Principles of Commerce, as would ultimately relieve you from the heavy Burthen of your Bonded Debts at your different Presidencies in India, retain the current specie in these Provinces, and secure to the Parent State lasting advantages from the Trade of Asia

8 We are clearly of opinion if the Bond holders will agree to this measure that by funding all these Bonded Debts, and by applying the amount of the Interest with a part of the Principal annually to the

purchase of Investment of Goods properly selected and provided at the cheapest rates the whole Debt may be gradually liquidated in Europe on a reduced Interest and with infinite and equal advantage to Great Britain and this Country

9 You will find this important Subject fully discussed in a second minute which is enclosed from your Governor General and which we shall take into our early consideration

10 On Plans of such importance it is necessary to proceed with caution, to collect the best commercial Information and to Weigh the disadvantages together with the proposed advantages of their several Parts. The Principle of each Plan is evidently good yet the Obstructions which will of course arise in carrying them into Execution are but too manifest but the best prospect for overcoming these obstructions is presented by the absolute political necessity that presses for the adoption of decided measures to connect the maintenance of your Credit with the extension and improvement of your Commerce.

11 In regard to the Opium Plan the objections that will naturally be made to it as a Plan of Monopoly are Objections which can never be obviated while any considerable Revenue is derived or said to be derived from it. The Opium like the Salt must be manufactured in these Provinces on the footing of a monopoly or the Revenue must fail It will be observed that the sale of the Opium might be exempted from the unfavorable checks of a Monopoly System and left open to every bidder of the Calcutta Market Had we possessed a Port to the Eastward to which Opium sold by Public Sale to the Bengal Merchants might be carried and securely disposed of to the trading Inhabitants of the Eastern Islands it would certainly be more consonant to the advantages of an open Trade that the Opium if even manufactured by contract should be sold to the highest bidder at Calcutta but the want of some safe and certain Establishment to the Eastward as an Emporium to the Merchants of this place exposes every private adventurer in the Article of Opium to the greatest risques and renders it necessary to concentrate a general Interest to give as much security as possible to the Success of our Opium Sales in the Eastern Seas.

12 The risque to which private adventurers in Opium are so much exposed oblige them to Export secretly a considerable Quantity of Specie together with their Opium to make good at all events their Engagements to pay Money in China. This is an Evil which we wish to obviate in every Degree Indeed we consider the further exportation of Specie from these Provinces as Public Credit now stands in so alarming a point of View that we imagine it would be more for your Interest to transfer the Opium entirely to the Dutch on the Condition of their paying its Value in Money into your Treasury at Canton than to leave it on its present uncertain footing.

13 We shall endeavor to concert Measures with the Governor General and Council of Batavia for the Security of the Opium Trade In considering this subject we are induced to express our wish that it were

possible to exchange Negapatam for the Fort of Malacca a secure Establishment in so favourable a Position would give real Vigour to our Eastern Trade and throw within the Command of Bengal a regular Supply to your Treasury at Canton with every advantage to this Government while it would procure to the Company a permanent Superiority in Europe in the China Commerce.

14. The Exchange of Negapatam for the Fort of Malacca can be effected only by Negotiation and by the authority of His Majesty's Ministers. The Object is important and we earnestly recommend it to your Serious and immediate consideration. We think it necessary at the same time to hint that if the Exchange be not effected speedily and before the States General are fully informed of the consequences it might have relative to their Eastern Trade, Difficulties would probably encrease to prevent their acceding to the measure. They consider Negapatam as of much greater importance to them than Malacca. But their Possession of Negapatam could be of little detriment to our Interests upon the Coast and the Fort and Town of Malacca would be a most important acquisition to Bengal.

15. In regard to the second Plan, that relative to your Bonded Debts in India it may be justly considered as intimately connected with the Plan for supporting the Trade with China. It will give new Life to the valuable part of your Commerce from the Coasts of Coromondel and Orixá, it will furnish Supplies for the Mocha, Surat and Malabar Returns and secure some valuable Cargoes from the Coast of Sumatra. But the whole success of it depends upon the Integrity and Judicious selection with which the Goods for the encreased Investment are to be provided and a proper attention to the Employment and destination of your Charter Party ships for receiving Goods in India and transporting them to England in proper seasons.

16. In 1781/2 when this Government found it necessary to draw Bills upon the Company to purchase what has been called the *Subscription Investment* the evident Necessity which appeared for making the produce of that Investment in England equal amidst all the Risques of War to the full amount of the Bills drawn, produced that Reduction in the prime cost of the Goods of that Investment which has so justly merited your approbation and may be deemed a most valuable saving to the Company. A similar Necessity will produce similar and improved effects and We trust that such precautionary measures may be adopted for lowering the prime Cost and improving the Quality of an *encreased Bonded Debt Investment* (to describe it by a particular name) as will answer the most sanguine Expectations that can be founded upon the Plan.

17. It will naturally occur to you that almost all your Servants and every British Subject connected with the Company have a general Interest in the Success of the undertaking, and ought to be watchful of every step leading to that success. We shall say no more upon the Subject at present but submit the whole to your discussion, and determination. We doubt not but His Majesty's Ministers will pay every liberal attention to Propositions which on the clearest Grounds of Public and Commercial Advantages

open so favourable a Prospect to the State at large and to the local Prosperity of these Settlements.

We have the Honor to be,

Honble Sirs,

Your most obedient and faithful humble Servants

John Macpherson/John Stahles/

Chas Stuart.

Fort William
29th April 1785

46

LETTER DATED 29 APRIL 1785

Recall of Browne—designs of Sindia—security of Nawab Vassal dominions

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

1 We have the Honor to address you by the Way of Bussorah Our Communications will be therefore brought within as narrow Limits as possible They will be hereafter detailed at Length and Copies will be sent to you of all the Papers to which they refer by the first proper sea Conveyance that may offer from Europe or either of your Presidencies.

2. We enclose an Abstract of our Advice [of] 25th March by your Ship Hinchinbrooke which We are much concerned to inform you was lost on the long Sands on the Night of the 10th Instant. She was proceeding to Europe and had an Investment on board amounting to near 8 Lacs of Current Rupees

3 You have been informed of our Resolution to recall Major Browne from the Court of Delhi independent of the great Expence attending Major Browne's Embassy and the troubles to which we believe it has given rise We considered the Appointment of a Public Minister at the Court of Shah Allum who had become a Prisoner and mere Instrument in the hands of the Marattas as an indirect Acknowledgement of sovereign Authority which might be turned against us and made the Source of Maratta Claims. On the Shew's receipt of the Governor General's Letter which announced Major Browne's Recall he is said to have expressed his total Dissatisfaction with the Measure and he thought proper to renew a Demand which he had not made to our knowledge since the year 1770 for Payment of the Tribute so long withheld from these Provinces desiring at the same time that Major Browne might remain with him to negotiate the Business to its Completion. Such a Claim from the Shaw alone would have been of little Consequence but was attended with an implied Threat of Maratta Aid to support it and with a Letter

from Sindia requesting a clear and explicit Answer to it. This Letter was forwarded by Major Browne and not by the regular Channel of your Resident with Sindia who was entirely uninformed of it until he heard from Major Palmer to whom Major Browne had communicated the Intelligence yet Major Browne and Mr Anderson were in each others Neighbourhood, and Major Palmer was at Lucnow Had Mr. Anderson been acquainted with it in due time he might have joined his Endeavours to Major Browne's to prevent its being sent, but this was not allowed him The Governor General on receiving the Letters from the Shah and from Sindia apprized Major Browne of the risque to which he exposed himself of incurring the Penalties annexed to Disobedience of Orders by not having complied with those issued to him without loss of Time and recommended that he should instantly attend to them, and representing to the Shah that his Departure from his Court proceeded from those Orders independently of any other Consideration We suppose therefore that Major Browne is now on his Way to the Presidency The Governor General also acquainted Mr Anderson that it was through him and not through Major Browne that he expected to learn the real Intentions of Sindia, that he should not lightly take up a Matter that may have originated and might terminate as it originated in Major Browne's Opinion of the Consequence of his Office as Minister with Shah Allum but should prepare for the Worst and send Orders accordingly to the commanding Officers in Sindia's Neighbourhood The whole Subject was laid before us in a Minute from the Governor General who advised that Letters should be written to Shah Allum and to Sindia to the following Purport to which We agreed and the Letters have been sent to Mr Anderson with a discretionary Power vested in him to deliver them or not as he shall judge best

4 The Letter to the Shah states that "when the King and Parliament of England were lately investigating the Affairs of India, they upon a Principle of Justice took Notice of his Majesty's Rights as the records of the Parliament which are published to all the World would clearly shew, but that they were withheld from sending orders upon the Subject of that Justice by seeing that his Majesty had voluntarily resorted to the Protection of another Power, and had not been pleased to remain with the English that the Governor General for his own Part bore the utmost respect and Veneration to his Majesty's Person and Rights, that he would forward faithfully to his Sovereign and to the Company all Letters which His Majesty might be pleased to transmit to him and that for that reason he had given a Commission to Mr Anderson to wait upon his Majesty to receive his Commands, but that as the British Nation was renowned for Sincerity and Truth it was the Governor General's Duty to inform his Majesty that the Friendship of England towards him and the August Family would ever flow from a voluntary Disposition and not thro' the Intercession or Interference of any other Power however nearly related in Alliance with them "

The Letter to Mahagee Sindia states "that many requests had been

lately made to the Governor General by other Powers which he had not mentioned to Sindia leaving to him that freedom of Action in his own Affairs which he should ever maintain in those of this Government while he had the Honor to be at the Head of it that this was the true and honorable foundation of Public Friendship between great States, that his personal Respect and Esteem for Sindia had been established upon one solid foundation that of his having observed Truth in all his Letters and Words and sincerity in all his Actions that observing that Mahagee Sindia possessed this Merit above all the Princes of India the English declined the Offers of other Chiefs and endeavoured to clear rather than obstruct his road to Power, that Sindia's Letter accompanying that of Shah Allum might be considered either in a friendly or an unfriendly Light, that the Governor General was ready to construe it as was most agreeable to him who wrote it and to act accordingly but as he did not receive it from him thro' Mr Anderson he should delay deciding in respect to it until he should hear from that Gentleman.

5 We hope to be soon informed by Mr Anderson on the important Subject of these Letters and in time to communicate his Observations to you with our next Advices.

6 You were acquainted by our last that Col P John Cumming had received a requisition from the Vizier for his return to Futtyghur with the whole Detachment except two Regiments of Sepoys that were to remain at Anopshier under Lieutt. Col Knudson He accordingly left Anopshier on the 1st Instant but on the first day of his March he received Authority to remain on the Frontier if he should think it necessary for the safety of the Viziers Dominions. The Colonel has since returned to his former station at Anopshier The Nabob has declared himself willing to defray the Charges of this Detachment during an Appearance of a Necessity for it a Service

7 The Fort of Agra surrendered to Sindia on the 27th Ult^o and the Shaw immediately afterwards conferred the Soubahdarry of the Province on his second Son the Prince Achar Shaw and the deputyship on Sadogee Deshmuck Sindia's Son in Law In the mean time Sindia appointed Raaygee Pattellee a relation of his own to the Government of the Fort on the part of his Son in law and having taken measures for the settlement of the Province marched with the Hlog from Agra on the 1th Inst^t towards Delhi He has halted at Mutrah on his way and it is thought that he will remain there for some time to conclude the Negotiation which he has begun with the Kellidar of Allyghur for the surrender of the Fort—the treasures of the late Nawaub Afrasiab Cawn are reported to be lodged in Allyghur which is said to be victualled for 12 Months to be very strong and to have a numerous Garrison under the Command of the Nabob Vizier's Dominions is only 4 or 5 Coas.

8 Your Resident with Mahagee Sindia continues steady in his Belief that the Intentions of that Chief are friendly and his Instructions

sincere, however strong the Apprehensions and however current the reports of a different Nature The last Letter which your Governor General received from Sindia was written within 4 days after that which has been already mentioned to have been transmitted by Major Browne and yet was couched in the most friendly Terms, we earnestly wish that no Event may happen to break the Relation in which he stands to you but as his support of the Shaw's Demand and reference to a menacing Shoka which announced to us in terms not very easily misunderstood that the Maratta Forces under Sindia are at the Shaw's Command convey no slight Suspicion of his Views, as adverting to his past Measures and not laying a Stress that might deceive us upon his public Assurances, we think that we can trace the real Causes of them to a Policy which requires our most vigilant Attention as his Minister Bow Bucksey has been secretly tampering with the Shah Zada who is now under your and the Vizier's Protection at Lucnow to prevail upon the Prince to return to his Father's Court, that the Subjection of the house of Timor to the Maratta Power might be rendered absolute and complete and the English be deprived of that Check which while the Prince remains with them they possess over Sindia's Ambitious Prospects Influenced by these Considerations we have thought it incumbent on us as well from a due regard to the Honor and Dignity of this Government as for the sake of ascertaining the real Intentions of Mahagee Sindia towards the Company and the Vizier to direct Mr James Anderson to obtain from him a Disavowal of any Intention to support the Shah's Claim or a declaration of his entire satisfaction with the Answer which your Governor General has sent to his Letter if in the discretion vested in Mr. Anderson he has thought it adviseable to deliver the letter which contained such Answer

9 We think it nor improbable that Sindia's Object in making the Demand, (for we cannot consider the Demand from the Shah in his present Situation but as that of Sindia himself) may have been to exhibit to the Government of Poonah the great Advantages likely to accrue to the Maratta State from the Influence he has obtained in the Administration of the Shah's Affairs and to reconcile in some degree the Minds of the Poonah Ministers to his encreasing Authority. We have therefore desired Mr. Anderson to inform himself very particularly, whether Sindia is not at this time carrying on some Negotiation with the Poonah Government with a view to the effectual support of Shah Allum's Claims and whether a Maratta Force may not be crossing the Peninsula to cooperate with him

10. In this last Event Mr Anderson will determine whether it may or may not be most adviseable to instruct Mr Mallet who is now on his Way from Surat to proceed at once to Poona to separate the Ministers from the Cause of Sindia, and if his Opinion should decide in the Affirmative we have authorised him to send Orders to Mr Mallet accordingly

11. Unwilling as we are to engage in Hostilities if the same can possibly be avoided, it is yet our Duty to watch with Care the Movements and Proceedings of so powerful a Neighbour as Mahagee Sindia and to be

prepared against any of an hostile Tendency and considering the Rapidity of Sindia's Motions we conceived that We could not be too early in our Measures.

12 We have the highest Confidence in the Honor Judgment and Prudence of Mr Anderson and as the remoteness of this Presidency from the Scene of Sindia's Operations is too great to allow of our sending Orders so soon as Orders should be given on every Occasion that may arise for them We have invested him with large discretionary Powers and sent him the following Instructions

13 If Mr Anderson should think that Sindia's Stay at Muttrah will be productive of Effects hostile to the Vizier or should he find that Sindia is either himself disposed to entertain such Designs or to be influenced by the Advice of Persons disaffected to your or his Excellency's Government or that he forms improper Expectations from his Mogul Authority we have authorized Mr Anderson to make a spirited Representation to him in the Name of this Government against his Encroachments and unjust Demands and warn him of the Consequences of such Conduct This representation failing of its Effect or if Sindia should act with Duplicity and have made Preparations for invading the Vizier's Territories, We have authorized Mr Anderson to signify our directions to Col Ironside and Col Sir John Cumming that they immediately unite their Forces and take the most favorable Position for checking the Views of Sindia defending the Territories of the Vizier and stirring up the Belk and Mogul Chiefs against him

14 We have thought it proper however to caution Mr Anderson against issuing these Orders, until the last Extremity and against apprizing either Col Ironside or Col Sir John Cumming or any other Person of the Purport of them before he shall see a Necessity for doing so

15 He is to be early in his Communications to Lucnow upon all Matters that relate to the Security of the Vizier's Dominions and he as well as Major Palmer are instructed to watch with the utmost Vigilance any Correspondence or Negotiations that may be carrying on at Lucnow thro the Means of Bow Duckwoy or between Sindia and the principal Chiefs in the Vizier's Dominions. The Interests of the Company and the Vizier in the present State of the Maratta Power and the Sanction which the Shah's Authority will give to the Exercise of it are so deeply involved in the Fate of the Shah Zada that the Prince has been cautioned against attending to any Overtures that may be made to him on the Part of Sindia and We have reason to think that his Conduct in this Respect will be agreeable to our Wishes. Indeed we understand that he is determined to decline any Treaty with the Mattras [Marathas] for his Return to Court unless under the Guarantee of this Government.

16 The Vizier has been requested to conform to any Arrangements that Mr Anderson may suggest and admit the Operation of any Measures that he may recommend while he remains in Sindia's Camp for the Safety of his Excellency's Country in any Extremity that may require such

Measures We have assured him in the strongest Terms of our fixed Determination to support his Authority and Rights against the Encroachments of any Power whatsoever, and we have recommended it to him to put his Forts on the Western Frontier in a state of immediate Defence we have given him similar Advice with respect to the Fort of Allahabad and proposed that it should be garrisoned by a Detachment of your Troops It has also been recommended to his Excellency to take Means for drawing together and preparing for actual Service such Native Cavalry as are in his Pay and Dominions and not absolutely required for the Collection of his Revenues but useful as these may be in some Respects, We must confess that we have little Dependance on any material Service from the Vizier's own Troops The Part of his Forces in whom any Reliance could be placed either by himself or us was the Corps of regular Mogul Cavalry which he has lately discharged They have arrived with their Commanders in Sindia's Camp, and were to be entertained in a few days, we have taken some Measures for recovering their Services to the Vizier if they should not have been actually engaged to Mahagee Sindia

[17] Your own Troops stationed beyond Chunar consist of the following Numbers So respectable a force is equal to any Service against a Native Power and we have the Pleasure to inform you that the Arrears due to it are well paid up

Cawnpore	{	1 Regt European Infantry ..	416	
		1 Compy. European Artillery	83	
		1 Battalion Lascars . .	330	
		5 Regts Sepoys	4101	
		1 Rossallah Cavalry . .	113	
		1 Compy Golandaaz	130	5173
Lucnow		1 Regt Sepoys ..		822
Detacht under Sir John Cumming	{	1 Compy European Artillery	.	96
		1 Battalion Lascars . . .		340
		1 Rossullah Cavalry		113
		5 Regts Sepoys .		4067
				<hr/> 10611

N B Major Dawes is on his March to Cawnpore with 151 Europeans and 457 Sepoys

[18] Several of the leading Chiefs of the Seiks have made Overtures from all Quarters for an Alliance with your Government and that of the Vizier against the Marattas The Advances of these People were thought to be sincere since they were much more exposed to the Encroachments of the Marattas than the Viziers Subjects and have formerly experienced their hostility in a very severe Degree we deemed it however proper to encourage their Expectations only by general Assurances conceiving that the Delay in acceding finally to their Overtures might be protracted until the real Designs of Sindia should be so well ascertained as to enable us to

judge whether we should accept their Assistance or not. But we are just advised by Mr Anderson that they have entered into a Treaty offensive and defensive with Mahagee Sindia. Mr Anderson is aware that this Connection may alarm the Vizier and is endeavouring to procure from Sindia a Copy of the Treaty with satisfactory Explanations of it but he observes that considering that Sindia has virtually made himself responsible to you and the Vizier for the peaceable Behaviour of the Seiks since in the present State of his Connection with them all their Inroads must be supposed to be made with his knowledge and Approbation the Treaty in this View may be considered as advantageous to your Interests. In this Place we cannot avoid remarking that Sir John Cumming has been assured by a Person deputed to him from the Seiks that they had been instigated by Sindia to commit their late Depredations in Rohilcund. The Seik Agent promised at his Departure to return with a declaration to this Purpose under the Seals of all the Chiefs. He said that there were not less than thirty thousand Seiks between Paniput and Delhi.

[19] In our late Instructions to Col. Sir John Cumming We have declined giving him Authority for employing his Detachment in opposing Sindia's reduction of the Forts along the Frontier but we have instructed Mr Anderson to endeavour to dissuade Sindia from this Measure without avowing our Authority for such Recommendation. Sindia's Possession of these Forts will give alarm to the Vizier and Occasion Disputes between the Marattas and his Excellency's Subjects. We have not much Expectation We must confess that Sindia will be diverted from his Purpose while in Aid of his ambitious Views any Prospect is afforded of his obtaining Treasure from the Conquest but we desire if possible to remove the Grounds of present as well as future Apprehensions for the safety of the Vizier's Dominions and nothing will be lost if Mr Anderson's Representation should be successful.

[20] In regard to Women or other Persons in Distress who shall resort to Sir John Cumming for Protection, in order to escape the Ravages of Sindia's Troops we have acquainted him that such Protection must be afforded to them but that he is not to encourage such Persons to leave their Homes nor is [he] to hold out to them any Advantage in their doing so and we have directed in the strongest Terms that he should not permit any Act to be done by his own Authority or by those under his Command that could give just Offence to Mahagee Sindia or furnish him with the least Pretence for any hostile Proceeding against the Company or the Vizier's Government for if we should be involved in a War with the Marattas in the Defence of the Dominions of our Ally or in the just support of our own Government it is proper to avoid even every Appearance of Rashness or Irregularity. The War must be necessary and the Cause of it must evidently arise from the Misconduct of the Marattas not from any Precipitancy on our Part. Besides We have every Advantage to expect from Prostration both in regulating your Finances and the Forces of the Vizier,

the near approach of the Rains is likewise in favor of such a System and it is not unlikely that before the next season Sindia may have other difficulties besides those before him to oppose his Ambition

[21.] With respect to the Position of the Detachment under the Command of Sir John Cumming we have directed him to be guided solely by the Vizier's Orders, until that particular Emergency shall occur in which Mr Anderson is authorized to give him Instructions and if such Position should be disagreeable to Mahagee Sindia, Mr. Anderson is desired to acquaint him that he has himself given Occasion for it by the Impropriety of his late representation on the Subject of the Tribute and the Doubt which this has produced of those friendly Dispositions which have before marked his Relation to the Company

[22.] The last Order given by the Vizier for the return of Sir John Cumming's Detachment to Anopsheer has been occasioned by the Colonel's Conduct in encamping it within a few Coss of Allyghur and as it is said beyond the Vizier's Jurisdiction and having given a Meeting to the Kelladar. This Proceeding and the Assurances of Support said to have been made by Sir John Cumming to the Kelladar alarmed Sindia who considered it as evincing a determined Resolution in us to oppose his Measures. Sir John Cumming indeed under a Jealousy of Sindia's increasing Power and an Apprehension of the Consequences which his Possession of the Forts on the Frontier might have on the security of the Vizier's County, announced his Intention to Mr Anderson and desired that the same might be mentioned to Mahagee Sindia, of opposing the Designs of that Chief until Orders should be received from us if the Marattas should cross the Jumna and commence their Operations against the Forts in his Neighbourhood. Mr Anderson very properly declined making this Intention known to Sindia and protested against it as being in his Opinion highly prejudicial to the English Interests We have the Pleasure however to understand that Sir John Cumming has since expressed himself rather doubtful of the Propriety of his acting in the Manner he had proposed Mr. Anderson further advises us that having reason to think that Representations from Lucnow will have effectually diverted Sir John Cumming from the Pursuit of his late Intentions, he had, in this Confidence, been induced to send a Message to Sindia informing him that all the reports he had heard of Sir John Cumming having with his Army trespassed the Vizier's Frontiers and encamped at Allyghur with Views of Opposition to him were false and assuring him that if he would disregard these reports entirely he would find that they would soon subside of themselves This Message we are informed by Mr. Anderson was received by Sindia with an Excess of Joy and was thought to have contributed greatly to diminish the Apprehension into which he and his Durbar have been thrown for some days Past

[23] However injudicious Sir John Cumming's Conduct may have been in conferring with the Kelladar of Allyghur and giving him Assurances of Support against the Marattas it has had the good present Effect of

inducing Sindia to recall the Troops that he had sent across the Jamna and were to have been followed by many More to carry his Designs against the Ports into Execution.

[24] Every Precaution has been taken for the preservation of the Tranquillity of India and the just Maintenance of the Authority of this Government. We early foresaw the Consequences of Sindia's Measures in the Western Provinces and the Troubles which were likely to arise in that Quarter and we consider it as a fortunate Event that We Suspended the Execution of that Part of the late Governor General's Agreement with the Vizier which stipulated the recall of the Futtie Ghur Detachment.

[25] Moodagee Boosla the Raja of Berar has been for some time Past at Poona and is reported to be concerting Arrangements with the Peshwa and Nana Furnevesse for checking Sindia's Power and has also been insinuated in Intelligence lately communicated to the Governor General for making fresh Demands on this Government founded on the Rajah's former Experience of its Liberality towards him. Whatever may be the Issue of his Visit to Poona we shall endeavour to counteract every Effect of it that may be hostile to your Interests or originate from his Success in obtaining the Concessions made to him at a Season of Trouble and Distress.

[26] The late Reduction of your military Establishment dictated as well by Policy as well as Necessity may have encouraged the Views of the neighbouring States and raised their Expectations. We have announced to those States the wise and moderate System which the British Nation has adopted relative to India and is published to the World in the regulations of the late Act of Parliament these have been translated into the Persian and Indostan Languages and the Governor General has taken particular pains in explaining to the Vakeels of the Native Powers that [it] is the firm Purpose of the English to punish every Insult that is offered to this Government or its Allies but they have been assured at the same time that we wish to be at Peace with all our Neighbours and will do nil we can consistently to preserve it. The Governor General has further acquainted them that should it be necessary to engage in hostilities with any Country Powers such hostilities shall be carried into the Dominions of that Power on the destructive System of a native War.

[27] Appearances it is true are not as we wish them but we entreat you to be persuaded that notwithstanding such Appearances the tranquillity of India is on as secure a footing as our utmost Exertions whether of prudent Policy or active Preparation can maintain it nor are we dissident of its happy duration upon such a System.

[28] The Differences between Tippoo Saib and the Marattas appear to be yet far from an Accommodation. His Vakeel at Poona is treated with the utmost Disrespect. Our last Intelligence from Hyderabad informs us that Tippoo's Intentions are as unfriendly as ever towards the Nabob Vizier Ally Cawn and that the former has declared his Purpose of taking Revenge for the Neutrality of the other during the late War in the Carnatic and his

unsteadiness to the Engagements into which he had entered with Hyder Ally and the Marattas

[29] Various Letters have been received from our Resident at Hydrabad explanatory chiefly of the Proposals of Nizam Ally Cawn communicated in our former letters of this Season and his Conduct respecting them.

[30] We have delivered some Remarks on these letters which will attend you with our Proceedings to be forwarded by the next Sea Conveyance

[31] We forbear communicating to you in this Address many Occurrences that have been noted in our Records since the date of our last Letter for they are not of sufficient Importance but they will all be recited to you in our next dispatches

We have the honor to be,
Honble Sirs,
Your Most faithful humble Servants,
John Macpherson/John Stables/
Chas Stuart

Fort William,
29th April 1785

P S Since the foregoing Letter has been completed we have received one from Mr Anderson which has afforded us much Satisfaction. It contains a Copy of the Treaty between Sindia and the Seiks² and a full Explanation of his Views in this Connection His Assurances of the most friendly Disposition towards the Company and Vizier were strong and delivered with much Earnestness A Copy of Mr Anderson's Letter will be transmitted to you in our next Packet.

47

LETTER DATED 16 MAY 1785

Sindia clears misunderstanding regarding tribute to Shah Alam—forts of Trincomali and Ostentburgh restored to the Dutch

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs,

[1] Our last Address to you was by the Eliza and dated the 29th Ultmo That Vessel was ordered to Bussorah for the conveyance of Dispatches of very considerable Importance as well from this Department as from the Secret Department of Inspection Duplicates have been sent by the Way of Madras and we have the Honor to transmit Duplicates thereof with this Letter Your Ship Admiral Hughes being under Destination to the Bombay Presidency, we have thought it adviseable that she should first proceed to Muscat and deliver his Packet there to be sent on a light Boat to Bussorah from whence it will be forwarded to you by your Resident

[2] Our last Letter advised you of a threatening Demand received from Shah Allum for Payment of the Tributo for these Provinces and of Sindia's Support of it conveyed thro Major Browne. It informed you also of the Measures that we had taken in consequence to vindicate the Dignity of your Government and to ascertain explicitly Sindia's actual Designs. You were at the same Time acquainted that your Governor General on receiving the Letters from the Shah and from Sindia has apprized Mr Anderson of the Nature of them and acquainted him that it was through him and not through Major Brown that he expected to learn the real Intentions of Mahagee Sindia—that he should not lightly take up a Matter that may have originated and might terminate as it originated in Major Browne's Opinion of the Consequence of his Office as Minister with Shah Allum but should prepare for the Worst and send Orders accordingly to the commanding Officers of your Troops in Sindia's Neighbourhood

[3] Very soon after Mr Anderson had received this Letter from the Governor General Major Browne who has since obtained his Dismission from the Shaw and taken his Departure for the Presidency had his Audience of Leave. The Narrative¹ of what passed on this occasion attends you enclosed we doubt not that it will appear to you as extraordinary as it did to us. it was communicated by Major Brown to Mr Anderson. Mr Anderson's Conduct on the Occasion was no less creditable to your Government than honorable to himself. It immediately occurred to him that after so wanton a Trespass on that Delicacy which we had ever shewn to Mahagee Sindia it was necessary to lose no Time in taking some Step that might manifest our sense of his Conduct. After maturely considering the Subject it appeared to him that no Measure could be adopted adequate to the end proposed excepting that of his immediately taking leave and quitting Sindia's Camp. He was himself unable from Sickness to wait on Sindia and therefore drew up a Declaration which he sent to him, a Copy of it attends you in Number in the Packet with Mr Anderson's Letter. Mahagee Sindia denied some Parts of Major Browne's Narrative and endeavoured to explain away others. In particular he observed that he had never made mention of the Tributo of Bengal when he talked of the Money to be paid he meant nothing but the petty Stipend paid monthly by the Vizier to the King. He was astonished that any Letter he had written to the Governor General should have appeared to him of an offensive Nature. he declared that he had only written a few Lines, and could not account for this Circumstance on any other Supposition than that of something having been foisted into them in the King's Office where they were sent to be made up. As to Intentions of Hostility against us he asked if he had made any Preparations for a War against us. He declared on the contrary that he had no greater Wish than that of preserving a perpetual Friendship with the English.

[4] The Remonstrance of your Resident had thrown Sindia into the greatest Consternation and he went immediately to Mr Anderson for the Purpose of endeavouring by every Means in his Power to undeceive him in regard to the mistaken Opinion he had formed and to direct him

from the resolution he had in consequence come to He repeated the Arguments that he had before held in his Durbar Mr Anderson acquainted him that the utmost he would at length agree to was to proceed no farther than Etaya and there wait our Orders for his return should we approve it, if Sindia would write a letter himself and procure another to be written from the King disavowing their knowledge of what had been before written and ascribing it entirely to the Error of the Moonshy. Sindia observed that he had no Objection to writing such letters because the fact was literally true but he begged that Mr. Anderson would not quit his Camp and he represented to him that altho' he might think it necessary for the sake of Appearances, he was not aware of many [sic] other Consequences that would immediately result from it. "At Poonah for Instance it would immediately be propagated that he had entered into a War with the English and he was willing to swear by his Sword that Nothing was farther from his Intentions "

[5] The promised Shoka from the Shah was carried by Sindia to Mr. Anderson the next day and it was soon followed by a very satisfactory Letter from himself to the Governor General. We have the Pleasure to transmit to you translations of both and a Copy of Mr. Anderson's Letter which enclosed them Mr Anderson resolved to accept the satisfaction offered by Sindia and to continue in his Camp.

[6] Tranquility is again restored or rather the immediate Apprehensions of a War are totally done away. Your Friendship with Sindia is confirmed and the Proof that has been given to him of our fixed Determination not to yield to Ought that could be deemed an Insult to your Government or the Vizier will we trust make him more guarded in his future Conduct. His Object may have been in some Measure to try the Temper of your Government If it was the Experiment has been made and he has been disappointed in the result of it Let his Views however have been what they might the Issue of his Conduct has tended greatly to shake his Authority and counteract his Ambition. Mr Anderson has informed us that in the Morning after his Remonstrance to Sindia was read in the public Durbar he received Visits from the Vakeels of the different States of India who attended the Shaw's and Maratta Camps and offered to join the English against Sindia We have likewise reason to believe from representations that have been made to the Governor General by the Vakeels of several Branches of the Maratta Government that the Reply made to Sindia's Demands would strengthen our Connection with the Courts of Poonah and Nagpour and have a general good Effect in maintaining the Tranquility of India We assure ourselves that it will, but common Prudence makes it necessary that We should not relax our military Precautions.

[7] We have the satisfaction to observe that it appears to have been the firm and chearful Resolution of the Vizier to apply the utmost Resources of his Government in Conjunction with yours to vindicate the Credit and establish the security of both, by whatever Means we should judge most conducive to those ends in the event of an actual War

[8] Mr Anderson has received the Letters written on the 13th Ulto to the Shaw and to Sindia but in the discretion vested in him to deliver them or not as he should think adviseable be very properly determined in the Negative as the satisfaction which they had intended to produce was already obtained.

[9] We have the honor to acquaint you that We have made very considerable reductions in some of the Allowances paid by the Vizier to your Servants &c. at Lucnow and annulled others, the total Saving amounts to more than twelve Lacs Per Annum the Particulars will be mentioned to you by the first Opportunity that may offer for our transmitting to you fuller Advices. We have ordered that the Allowances which are either agreed to or permitted by this Government shall be recorded on your Public Accounts and paid by your Accountant at Lucnow We also think it necessary to inform you that We are proceeding in the Work of retrenchment with all possible Dispatch

Your honorable Court will be pleased to hear that the Forts of Trincomally and Ostenburgh were delivered over to the Dutch Commissaries on the 23d Ulto and that we are advised by your President at Fort St George that Nothing now remains in that Quarter unperformed on the Part of the French to complete the definitive Treaty

We have the honor to be

Honble Sirs

Your most faithful humble Servants

John Macpherson/John Stables/

Chas. Stuart

Fort William
16th May 1785

LETTER DATED 23 JULY 1785

Assignment of revenues of Carnatic—Sindia's designs against Huzar—outbreak of hostilities between Tipu and the Marathas—treaty between the Sikhs and Sindia

To the Honble Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs

1 We have the honor to transmit to you by the way of Buxorah copies of our last advices over land We think it proper to add thereto a summary relation of what has passed in this department since the date of them reserving a more full and detailed communication of events and of the situation of your affairs under our Government for a dispatch

which is preparing to be transmitted to you by your ship Swallow, now in this river.

2 Your ships Houghton and Britannia imported at Fort St. George on the 26th and 28th May, and brought duplicates of General Letters from your Honble Court, bearing date the 9th and 10th December The originals arrived here by the Fox packet on the 2nd Ultimo

3 The Fox is arrived in this river, and Lieutenant General Sloper landed yesterday, and took his seat at the Board.

4. At the first meeting of our Council after the receipt of your commands given in these letters we issued the following orders from this Department.

5 We directed the Persian translator to have translations made, with the least possible delay, of all the Secret Persian correspondence between the beginning of the year 1782, and the 1st February 1785, of which no translations now exist, and the same will be transmitted to you as soon as finished. On Mr Macpherson's accession to the office of Governor General, particular enquiry was made respecting this Persian correspondence, the translator's report in consequence appears on our consultations of 19th Feby last

6 Our Secretary has received orders to be very regular in sending Indexes with the Broken and annual setts of our proceedings, and we trust that your Honble Court will have no reason in future to complain of any want of punctuality in this respect.

7 We have received with the fullest sense of gratitude the thanks rendered to the Members of this Government by your Honble Court on the 28th October, and by the Court of Proprietors on the 7th November, and have directed, that they be officially transmitted to your late Governor General We have also ordered our Secretary to advise Mr David Anderson of the honorable testimony which you have borne to his conduct in negotiating with the Maratta Powers

8. Our Secretary has been directed to collect from our Consultations all that appears therein with respect to the proceedings of your late Governor General at Lucnow, and to prepare a distinct account thereof, which will be transmitted to you by the first sea conveyance, and we have required Major Browne to furnish us with the whole correspondence¹ between the late Governor General and him from the time of his first appointment to reside at the Court of Delhi down to the latest period It will be sent to your Honble Court by the first opportunity that may offer after our receipt of it

9 A copy of this paragraph has been communicated to Major Browne, who has long since withdrawn from Delhi, but is not yet arrived at the Presidency We have therefore repeated our orders to him to repair hither as soon as possible

10 We shall now proceed to lay before you in brief the occurrences which have happened since the 16th May last, when we had the honor of addressing you last by the way of Bussorah.

11 On the 14th Ultimo we received a letter from your Right Honble. President and Council at Fort St. George bearing date the 1st of that month enclosing copies of your General Letters of the 9th and 10th December 1784 in which you ordered the surrender of the assignment to the Nabob of the Carnatic without delay and stated the arrangement which you desired should be made with the Nabob and the Rajah of Tanjore for defraying the expence of protecting the Carnatic in peace and war

12 The dispatch was brought to us by Lord Macartney who had come [to] Bengal on his way to England at the particular request of your administration at Fort St George that we might be apprized by his personal representations of the embarrassments which they suffered and be prepared to afford them all the relief in our power

13 Our next advices will lay before you the several arguments that were stated to us by the Gentlemen of that Presidency on the subject of your commands for surrendering the assignment² They were arguments of serious importance and received as they merited our candid and impartial attention. They were strengthened by the reasonings of Lord Macartney to whom your Governor General at our request communicated our readiness to receive any representations that his Lordship might wish to make to us on the restoration of the assignment or in general on the affairs of Fort St George and who in consequence delivered his opinions to us. It appeared to us, that your orders for surrendering the Assignment were given after much consideration and with a full view of the consequences that were likely to arise from them and that they were founded on a liberal principle of national justice that you had taken extraordinary pains in your letter to the Nabob of Arcot to explain to his Highness the conditions on which the Sunnud of Assignment was restored to him, and that the Nabob must infer from this letter that the forfeiture of his Country would be a certain consequence of the nonperformance of those conditions It appeared to us also that the importance and equitable arrangement which you had proposed with the Nabob and the Rajah of Tanjore was so connected with your orders relative to the assignment that the execution of them could not be suspended without injury to that arrangement. We saw the justice and felt the policy of leaving to orders so evidently founded on principles of national justice and directed to the public good their full scope and proper effect and we trusted that the Nabob would find greater resources than your Presidency of Fort St George expected from his best exertions.

14 To that administration we recommended that they should carry your orders relative to the surrender of the assignment into execution without delay and we assured them that every aid of resource and every cooperation within the power of this Government would be cheerfully granted to relieve any distress or remove any inconvenience that might arise in the Carnatic from the immediate execution of your commands.

15 To the Nabob, the consequences that must immediately and necessarily result from any failure on the part of his Highness his

Ministers, or Agents, in the punctual performance of the stipulations under which his country was ordered to be restored to him, were stated in forcible and decided terms, and we thought it necessary to attend so particularly to the security of the renters, who have fully and faithfully fulfilled their engagements with the Company, that your Governor General acquainted the Nabob, that any injury or oppression towards these renters from his Highness's government, would be considered as an act of hostility towards the Company

16 But long before these dispatches could have been received at Fort St George and notwithstanding the reference that was made to this Government a negotiation was opened by your Servants at that Presidency with the Nabob Walau Jah, in which, from a due regard to the early execution of your commands in respect to the Assignment, his Highness's assent was obtained to certain articles of agreement declared to have the full force of a treaty and Preliminary to the general arrangement which you have ordered for the protection of the Carnatic in peace and war. Such assent having been received, the assignment was immediately restored, and the articles of agreement were executed by your President and the Nabob. A copy of them attends you a number in this dispatch. A material deviation which they appear to have from the letter of your orders is, that land security is given in lieu of that of Saucars for the due performance of his Highness's engagements, but with this provision, that the latter shall be substituted for the former if we should desire it

17 On Lord Macartney's resignation of the office of President at Fort St George, there was a balance in that treasury of Pags 259898, but this would contribute in no great proportion to the diminution of the heavy and urgent demands on it for it is stated to us, that on the 18th Ultimo, there was an army arrear existing of 18 lacs of Pagodas, and your Civil Establishment was in arrear for 18 months

18. Our advices from Mr Anderson are in substance as follow.

19. Shah Allum and Mahajee Sindia having disavowed any knowledge of their letters to the Governor General, in which the demand for payment of the tribute was made, Mr Anderson availed himself very properly of the discretion which we vested in him, and suppressed the delivery of the answers to them, mentioned in our advices to your Honble Court of the 29th April

20 Sindia foreseeing the length of time that would be necessary for the reduction of Allyghur, and unwilling to leave this object unaccomplished, prevailed on the King to forego his resolution of proceeding to Delhi, and to canton during the rains at Muttrah. In the mean time the vicinity of your detachment under Colonel Sir John Cumming operated as a check upon Sindia's designs on Allyghur, and alarmed him with respect to their accomplishment, for he had heard that the Colonel was carrying on a correspondence with Jehangur Cawn the Kelladar, and he was apprehensive that an asylum might be afforded him, or rather a protection given to the treasure in the place, for the possession of this treasure which

included the effects and property of the late Ameer Ul Omrah Afranab Cawn was the principal object of the conquest. We imagine that the arguments which Mr Anderson has used in reply to Mahajee Sindia's representation on this subject will have removed his suspicion of any direct interference on the part of this Government or the Nuboh Vizier for the defence of Allyghur. No encouragement will be given to the Kelladar of that Fortress to desire an asylum in his Excellency's dominions but if it should be desired it cannot be denied to him. We have desired Mr Anderson to inform Sindia that it is not the custom of the English to enquire into these subjects that the protection due to the property brought with the person cannot be separated from the protection given to the person himself but that neither the Company nor their servants will be benefited by it.

21 In the wish of preventing the consequences that might arise from possible disagreements between the Vizier's subjects and the Marattas, if Sindia possessed himself of the chain of Forts on the western frontier we formerly desired Mr Anderson to endeavor to prevail on him (but in such manner as might show the advice rather to proceed from his own judgment of Sindia's interest than from our authority) not to pursue this line of conquest. He did so and sounded him on preserving the Fort of Allyghur to the possession of Jehangur Cawn but so much jealousy was discovered by Sindia on this occasion that Mr Anderson thought it best to relinquish the attempt.

22 Our latest advices from Mr Anderson are dated the 30th June and inform us that Sindia had detached a considerable body of his troops under Nudjif Cooley Cawn against Allyghur that Nudjif Cooley had undertaken to negotiate with the Kelladar but it was imagined that the question would not be peaceably adjusted.

23 We are acquainted from the same authority that Shah Allum was very anxious to proceed to Delhi but that Sindia having determined to caution with his own Army at Muttrah was very desirous of detaining the King there also.

24 We have no late letters that advise us of the actual return of Colonel Sir John Cumming's detachment to Futtighur but we have reason to believe that it is now arrived at that place.

25 Mr Anderson has been well and graciously received by the Shah and we have the pleasure to believe that Mahajee Sindia is impressed with a just conviction that our dispositions towards him are friendly. We know that his real interest or rather the present objects of his ambition will be best consulted by his giving us no cause to deviate from that pacific system which we have made it the rule of our conduct to observe and which has allowed the fullest operation to his projects while they have been pursued without the territories of the Nabob Vizier.

26 Your Resident with Mahajee Sindia advised us on the 10th of May of a message which he had received from that Chief informing him of the great probability of a speedy rupture between the Maratta Government

31 It is now certain that such hostilities have been commenced and that a Maratta army consisting of 25 000 men has been totally destroyed by Tippoo's troops in a battle fought in the territory of Tippoo three days march to the South westward of the Kistna which river the Maratta army had crossed. It is not improbable that the success of Tippoo Sahib may induce Sindia to make a considerable detachment of troops to the Decan. Indeed it is much wished by Nana Furnavese that Sindia should quit the present objects of his pursuit and return to the Decan himself.

32 Colonel Sir John Cumming having communicated to us the arrival of a French Gentleman of the name of Sahuco³ in Sindia's Camp and some suspicious circumstances attending his visit to it we transmitted the intelligence to Mr Anderson. The Colonel learned afterwards that the French Gentleman had several private interviews with Sindia and that the business on which he had been sent related to a negotiation for the delivery of the Fort of Bassien on the Malabar Coast to the French but we understand from Mr Anderson that this report is without foundation. The object indeed could not be accomplished without a positive violation of the 13th Article of the treaty of Salboy.

33 Your Honble Court has been already informed in a former letter that overtures were made by several of the Seik Chiefs for an alliance with the Company and the Vizier but Sindia desired their friendship and a definitive treaty has been at length concluded between them. The treaty provides generally that the Seiks shall join Sindia with 5 000 horse that a Jagheer of 10 lacs shall be given for defraying the expence in consideration of their foregoing their claim to Bakce and that they shall not injure the territories of the English or of the Nabob Vizier this last security was easily obtained by Mr Anderson who expressed his wish to Sindia that it might be inserted. But although the treaty has been actually entered into by several of the Chiefs there is a great probability that the Seiks in general have no serious intention of adhering to it and there is reason to suppose that Sindia himself entertains this apprehension of their design for he has detained the Seik Chief Doojah Sing much against the inclination of the latter in the Maratta camp until all the Seik Chiefs of his confederacy shall have affixed their Seals and signatures to a copy of the treaty which he has transmitted to them for that purpose.

34 We believe that this union between Sindia and the Seiks can not be of long duration though it may answer a temporary purpose and we as firmly believe that if your relative situation to the Marattas should be even different from what it now is and we trust will long continue to be the Company and the Vizier would in this part of India find an useful and active ally in the Seik tribes against them.

35 We are informed of lures and objects having been held out by Sindia to the Seiks previous to their late engagement which were not only irreconcilable to your connection with the Marattas but hostile to it but we distrust their reality and the clause since inserted in the treaty is sufficiently satisfactory.

40 Your Governor General laid before us on the 14th Ultimo a letter which he had received from Major Palmer dated the 30th May. The subject of it will be fully detailed in our next advices. Major Palmer communicated his purpose of leaving Lucnow soon and the Governor General acquainted us that he had appointed Lientt Coll. Gabriel Harpur to be his Agent at the Court of Lucnow. The Governor General had formerly intimated to us individually his intention of allowing Major Palmer to resign his Office at Lucnow whenever he should think proper, and our wishes concurred with his own that the succession to it should be vested pro tempore in Lientt. Coll Harpur a Gentleman of experience and ability respected for the integrity of his character and not only esteemed by the Vizier, but the express object of his Excellency's request, that he should succeed Major Palmer. There were further reasons, which will be hereafter communicated to your Honble Court, for this selection of Lientt Coll. Harpur for the trust delegated to him. The agreement made by your late Governor General with the Nabob Vizier and yet in force precluded the appointment of a public Minister from this Government at Lucnow. The allowances to Lientt. Coll Harpur are limited to those to which Major Palmer's were lately reduced Vizt. Sonat Ra. 2088 per mensem.

41 The balance due to the Company from the Nabob Vizier amounted on the 31st of May last to Fyzabad 10 Sun Sicca. Ra. 34,28,306 1

42 An arrangement has been made for the liquidation of your debt to Gopaul Dass Saw and Klassen Chund contracted by the Resident at the Vizier's Court in 1783 and now amounting to Ct. Ra. 2 03 023 11.8.

43 We have the honor to acquaint you that Mr Dangereux has been appointed Agent for the French nation in Bengal Foreign Dept. and to treat on and receive the cessions to France in these provinces, as ordered in the 13th Article of the Definitive treaty. Mr John Wilton, a junior Merchant in your service, has been nominated on our part to confer with Mr Dangereux and act under our orders for carrying the said article into execution.

44 We have made considerable progress in the reduction of your expences. The savings which we have effected in your Secret Dept of Military Department amount to [] and in your Civil Inspection Department to []

45 The state of your treasures is as follows

Ready Money			
General Treasury		52943 13.9	
Khalisah		49199 7.5	
			101143.52
Bills Receivable			
General Treasury	Sca. Ra. 437012 10 6	507605 7.8	
Khalisah	118521 13 11	17.633.5 11	650293.13 7
Mint			
General Treasury			
Khalisah	Sca. Ra. 7500.5	5310 12.3	5310 12.3

Unsorted Treasure

Khalsah	- -	
From Burdwan 3000 Valued at 10		
Per Cent better than Current Rupees		3300 - -.
Balance Account deposits	981178 5 4	
Do Accomptant General to the		
Mayor's Court	116918 3 3	
Do on the old bonded debt, on which		
the interest has ceased by public		
advertisement	45117 - 8	
New bonded debt at 8 Per Cent	15728836 11 2	
11 Per Cent Annuities Loan	856840 - -	
Annuities	- - -	17728890 4 5
Increase in the deposits this week	4383 11 11	

Fort William,
23d July 1785
[Per *Swallow*]

We have the Honor to be,
Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
John Macpherson/John Stables/
Chas Stuart

49

LETTER DATED 31 JULY 1785

Shah Alam's demand for tribute—Sindia's attitude towards the British—security of Nawab Vazir's dominions—movements of Sikhs—rupture between Marathas and Tipu—Malet appointed resident at Poona—surrender of revenue assignments to Nawab of Carnatic

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs,

1 We have had the honor to address You by such Ships of this Season as have been dispatched since the 1st January last under the following Date[s] 17th January Per Valentine, 31st January Per Mornington, 22d February Per Mansfield, 2d March Per Cornwallis, 25th March Per Hinchinbrooke

2 We have also written to Your Honourable Court under the following Dates by the Way of Bussorah 3d February, 29th April, 16th May, 23d July

3 Copies of all these Letters attend You Numbers in the Swallow Packet, with a broken sett of our Proceedings, and their Index commencing on the 25th March and ending on the 19th July

4 You will also receive with this Dispatch a complete Copy of that

which was embarked in the *Hinohinbrooke* and lost in the Wreck of that Ship on the 10th of April

*13 Altho our Advices overland have Communicated to You every Subject of Importance that had occurred before the Periods of their respective Dates and was immediately necessary for Your Information, Yet as several other Matters noted on our Records and not of sufficient Consequence to be inserted in these Letters were omitted we think it proper to begin our Narrative of Events as they have happened since the 25th March when we last addressed You by a Sea Conveyance

We propose in the first Instance to acquaint You with the Transactions that are immediately connected with Your separate Interests under this Government and afterwards with those which have been communicated to us from Your other Presidenoes.

14 You were duly advised of the Resolution that we passed to recall Major Browne from the Court of Delhi Independent
 See Genl Letter dated 2d March of the great Expence attending this Embassy and the Cons. 1 [sic] March Tronbles to which we believed it had given Rise we considered the appointment of a Public Minister at the Court of Shaw Allum who had become a Prisoner and mere Instrument in the Hands of the Marrattas as an indirect Acknowledgement of a Sovereign Authority which might be turned against us and made the Source of Marratta Claims. On the Shaw's Receipt of the Governor General's Letter
 Cons. 9th April which announced Major Browne's Recall he was said to have expressed his total Dissatisfaction with the Measure, and he thought proper to renew a Demand which he had not made to our knowledge since the Year 1770 for the Payment of the Tribute so long withheld from these Provinces desiring at the same Time that Major Browne might remain with him to negotiate the Business to its Completion Such a Claim from the Shaw alone would have been of little Consequence but it was attended with an implied Threat of Mahratta aid to support it and with a Letter from Sindia requesting a clear and explicit Answer to it. The Letter was forwarded by Major Browne and not by the regular Channel of Your Resident with Sindia who was entirely uninformed of it till he heard of it from Major Palmer to whom Major Browne had communicated the Intelligence Yet Major Browne and Mr Anderson were in each others neighbourhood and Major Palmer was at Lucnow Had Mr Anderson been acquainted with it in due Time he might have joined his Endeavours to Major Browne's to prevent the Letters being sent but this was not allowed him. The Governor General on receiving the Letters from the Shaw, and from Sindia apprized Major Browne of the Risk to which he exposed himself of incurring the Penalties annexed to Disobedience of Orders by not having complied with those issued to him without Loss of Time and recommended that he should instantly attend to them

Paras 5-12 have been omitted as they are repeated in letter dated 23 July 1785.

representing to the Shaw that his Departure from his Court proceeded from those Orders independantly of any other Consideration The Governor General also acquainted Mr Anderson that it was thro' him, and not thro' Major Browne that he expected to learn the real Intentions of Mahajee Sindia, that he should not lightly take up a Matter that might have originated, and might terminate as it originated in Major Browne's opinion of the Consequence of his Office as Minister with Shaw Allum, but should prepare for the Worst, and send Orders accordingly to the Commanding Officers in Sindias Neighbourhood The whole Subject was laid before us in a Minute from the Governor General, who advised that Letters should be written to Shaw Allum and to Sindia to the following Purport, to which We agreed, and the Letters were sent to Mr Anderson, with a discretionary Power vested in him to deliver them or not as he should judge best

15 The Letter to the Shaw stated that "when the King and Parliament of England were lately investigating the Affairs of India, they upon a Principle of Justice took Notice of His Majesty's Rights, as the Records of the Parliament, which were published to all the World, would clearly shew, but that they were withheld from sending Orders on the Subject of that Justice, by seeing that His Majesty had voluntarily resorted to the Protection of another Power, and had not been pleased to remain with the English that the Governor General for his own Part bore the utmost Respect and Veneration to His Majesty's Person and Rights, and that he would forward faithfully to his Sovereign and to the Company all Letters which His Majesty might be pleased to transmit to him that for that Reason he had given a Commission to Mr Anderson to wait upon his Majesty to receive his Commands, but that as the British Nation was renowned for Sincerity, and Truth, it was the Governor General's Duty to inform his Majesty that the Friendship of England towards him and his August Family would ever flow from a voluntary Disposition, and not thro' the Intercession of any other Power, however nearly related in Alliance with them" The Letter to Mahajee Sindia stated "that many requests had been lately made to the Governor General by other Powers which he had not mentioned to Sindia, leaving to him that Freedom of Action in his own Affairs which he should ever maintain in those of this Government while he had the Honor to be at the Head of it, That this was the True and Honorable Foundation of Public Friendship between great States, that his Personal Esteem and Respect for Sindia had been established upon one solid Foundation, that of his having observed Truth in all his Letters and Words, and Sincerity in all his Actions, that observing that Mahajee Sindia possessed this Merit above all the Princes of India, the English declined the offers of other Chiefs, and endeavoured to clear rather than obstruct his Road to Power, that Sindia's Letter accompanying that of Shah Allum might be considered either in a Friendly or unfriendly Light That the Governor General was ready to construe it as was most agreeable to him who wrote it and to act accordingly, but as he did not receive it from him

through Mr Anderson he should delay deciding in Respect to it until he should hear from that Gentleman.

16 You were acquainted by our last Letter that Coll. Sir John Cumming had received a Requisition from the Vizier for his Return to Fattyghur with the whole Detachment excepting two Regiments of Sepoys that were to remain at Anopsheer under Lieutenant Colonel H Knudson. He accordingly left Anopsheer on the 1st April but on the first day of his march he received authority to remain on the Frontier if
Cons. 9th April he should think it necessary for the safety of the Vizier's Dominions. The Colonel then returned to his former Station at Anopsheer

17 The Fort of Agra surrendered to Mahajee Sindia on the 27th of March and the Shah immediately afterwards conferred the Soubahdarry of the Province on his Second Son the Prince Akbar Shah and the Duputy ship [sic] on Ladogee Deshmnek Sindia's Son in Law In the mean Time Sindia appointed Ranjeeo Pattollee a Relation of his own to the Government of the Fort, on the Part of his Son in Law and having taken other Measures for the Settlement of the Province marched with the King from Agra on the 4th of April towards Delhi he halted at Muttra on his way and it was thought that he would remain there for some Time to conclude the Negotiation which he had begun with the Kelladar of Allyghur for the Surrender of that Fort. The Treasures of the late Nawab Asraah Cawn were reported to be lodged in Allyghur which was said to be victualled for 12 Months to be very strong and to have a numerous Garrison under the Command of Jehanguir Cawn Brother to Asraah Its Distance from the Frontier of the Nabob Vizier's Dominions [is] 4 or 5 Coas.

18 Your Resident with Mahajee Sindia uninformed at this Time of the late Conduct of that Chief was steady in his Belief that his Intentions were friendly and his Professions sincere however strong the Apprehensions and however Current the Reports of a different Nature He transmitted a Letter to Your Governor General from Sindia written within 4 days after that which has been already mentioned to have been received by Major Browne and it was couched in the most friendly Terms. We had earnestly wished that nothing should occur to break the Relation in which he stood to You but as his Support of the Shah's Demand and Reference to a menacing Shoka which announced to us in Terms not easily to be misunderstood that the Mahratta Forces under Sindia were at the Shah's Command, conveyed no slight Suspicion of his Views as adverting to his past Measures, and not laying a stress that might deceive us upon his Public Assurances we thought that we could trace the real Causes of them to a Policy which required our most Vigilant Attention As his Ministers Mow Mucksoy had been secretly tampering with the Shahzada, who was under Your and the Vizier's Protection at Lucnow to prevail upon the Prince to return to his Father's Court that the Subjection of the House of Timur to the Mahratta Power might be rendered absolute and complete, and the English be deprived of that Check which, while the Prince remained

with them, they possessed over Sindia's ambitious Projects, Influenced by these considerations we thought it incumbent on us, as well from due regard to the Honor and Dignity of this Government as for the Sake of ascertaining the real Intentions of Mahajee Sindia towards the Company, and the Vizier, to direct Mr James Anderson to obtain from him a Disavowal of any Intention to support the Shah's Claim, or a Declaration of his entire Satisfaction with the answer which Your Governor General sent to his Letter, if in the Discretion vested in Mr. Anderson he thought it advisable to deliver the Letter which conveyed such answer

19 It appeared to us not improbable that Sindia's Object in making the Demand (for we could consider the Demand from the Shah in his then Situation but as that of Sindia himself) might have been to exhibit to the Government of Poonah the great Advantages likely to accrue to the Mahratta State from the Influence he had obtained in the Administration of the Shah's Affairs, and to reconcile in some Degree the Minds of the Poonah Ministers to his encreasing Authority We therefore desired Mr. Anderson to inform himself very particularly whether Sindia was not at that Time carrying on some Negociation with the Poona Government, with a view to the effectual Support of Shah Allum's Claim, and whether a Mahratta Force might not be crossing the Peninsula to cooperate with him.

20 In this last Event we left it to Mr Anderson to determine whether it might not be most adviseable to instruct Mr Malet, who was then on his way from Surat, to proceed at once to Poona, to separate the Ministers from the Cause of Sindia, and if his opinion should decide in the affirmative, we authorized him to send Orders to Mr Malet Accordingly

21 Unwilling as we were to engage in Hostilities, if the same could be possibly avoided, it was yet our duty to watch with Care the Movements and Proceedings of so powerful a Neighbour as Mahajee Sindia, and to be prepared against any of an hostile Tendency, and considering the Rapidity of Sindia's Motions, we conceived that we could not be too early in our Measures.

22. Having the highest Confidence in the Honor, Judgement and Prudence of Mr. Anderson, and as the Remoteness of this Presidency from the scene of Sindia's Operations was too great to allow of our sending Orders so soon as orders should be given on every Occasion that might arise for them, we invested him with large discretionary Powers, and sent him the following Instructions

23 If Mr Anderson should think that Sindia's stay at Muttrah would be productive of Effects hostile to the Vizier, or he should find that Sindia was either himself disposed to entertain such Designs, or to be influenced by the advice of Persons disaffected to Your or his Excellency's Government, or that he formed improper Expectations from his Mogul Authority, We authorized Mr Anderson to make a spirited Representation to him in the Name of the Government against his Encroachments and unjust Demands, and warn him of the Consequences of such Conduct.

This Representation failing of Effect or if Sindia should act with Duplicity and have made Preparations for invading the Vizier's Territories, We authorized Mr Anderson to signify our Directions to Colonel Ironside, and Colonel Sir John Cumming that they should immediately unite their Forces and take the most favorable Position for checking the Views of Sindia defending the Territories of the Vizier and stirring up the Seik and Mogul Chiefs against him.

24. We thought it proper however to caution Mr Anderson against issuing these Orders until the last Extremity and against apprizing either Colonel Ironside or Colonel Sir John Cumming or any other Person of the Purport of them before he should see a necessity for doing so

25. He was to be early in his Communications to Lucnow upon all Matters that related to the Security of the Vizier's Dominions and he as well as Major Palmer were instructed to watch with the utmost Vigilance any Correspondence or Negotiations that might be carrying on at Lucnow, through the Means of Mow Mucksey or between Sindia and the Principal Chiefs in the Vizier's Country. The Interests of the Company and the Vizier in the present State of the Mahratta Power and the Sanction of the Shah's authority would give to the Exercise of it were so deeply involved in the fate of the Shohzada that the Prince was cautioned against attending to any Overtures that might be made to him on the Part of Sindia and we had Reason to think that his Conduct in this Respect would be agreeable to our wishes. Indeed we understood that he was determined to decline any Treaty with the Mahrattas for his Return to Court unless under the Guaranty of this Government

26. The Vizier was requested to conform to any Arrangements that Mr Anderson might suggest and admit the operation of any Measures that he might recommend while he remained in Sindia's Camp for the safety of his Excellency's Country in any Extremity that might require such Measures. We assured him in the strongest Terms of our fixed Determination to support his Authority and Right against the Encroachments of any Power whatsoever and we recommended to him to put his Forts on the Western Frontier in a state of Immediate Defence. We gave him similar Advice with respect to the Fort of Allahabad and proposed that it should be garrisoned by a Detachment of Your Troops. It was also recommended to his Excellency to take Means for drawing together and preparing for actual Service such Native Cavalry as were in his Pay and Dominions and not absolutely required for the Collection of the Revenues but useful as these might be in some Respects we had little Dependence on any material Service from the Vizier's own Troops

27. Such were our precautions for Combating the Views of Mahajee Sindia with Effect if they had proved Hostile to Your Interests. A fresh cause soon arose for doubting his Friendship

28. Major Browne having received the Governor General's Letter which is mentioned in the [..] Paragraph of this address obtained his Dismission from Shaw Alum on the 20th April but had previously his

Audience of leave Sindia expressed his desire to be present on the occasion, and was so We refer to the Narrative of what passed at this audience for the particulars of the Conversation We doubt not that they will appear [to] You as extraordinary as they did to us Mr Anderson possessed of the Governor General's Sentiments on the Receipt of the Shoka from Shah Allum, and Sindia's Letter, that came with it and now informed by Major Browne of what Sindia had said to him in the Shaw's Durbar, began to apprehend that the late friendly professions of that Chief had been entirely fallacious and [it] immediately occurred to him that after so extraordinary behaviour on the Part of Sindia after so wanton a Transgression on that Delicacy of Conduct which the English Government had ever shewn to him, it was necessary to lose [sic] no time, in taking some step that might manifest of our Sense of it

29 His resolution was instant and he instantly announced it to Sindia Illness prevented him from declaring it in Person, he therefore prepared a Remonstrance, and sent it by his Confidential Servant Malavey Theyrah Deen whom he instructed to read it to Sindia in the Durbar Mr Wilkinson and Lieutenant William Stewart attended the Durbar on this occasion at Mr Anderson's request The Remonstrance stated the Grounds of Complaint of Sindia's Conduct, and his support of the Shaw's Claim, confirmed before Major Browne and in Conversation with him at the Shaw's Durbar, announced Mr Anderson's intention to leave the Camp The Effect with respect to Sindia was as immediate as the decided means which were adopted for obtaining it were honourable to Your Minister and Creditable to Government Mahajee Sindia expressed the greatest Astonishment at the Message which had been sent to him and endeavoured by every means in his Power to vindicate himself from the Supposition of being hostilely inclined to the English, some Parts of the Narrative he absolutely denied and others he explained away In particular he observed that he had never made mention of the Tribute of Bengal, When he talked of the Money to be paid, he meant nothing but the Petty Stipend paid Monthly by the Vizier to the King He was astonished that any Letter he had written to the Governor General should have appeared to him of an Offensive Nature He declared he had only written a few lines and he could not account for the Circumstance on any other supposition than that of something having been foisted into them in the King's Office, where he had sent his Letter to be made up, as to intentions of hostility against us, he asked if he had made any preparations for a War against us He declared that on the Contrary he had no greater wish than that of preserving a perpetual Friendship with the English, and he then entered into a long enumeration of all the difficulties he had encountered in the accomplishment of it.

30 He waited on Mr Anderson immediately and endeavoured by every means in his Power to undeceive him in regard to the opinion he had formed and to divert him from the Resolution he had in Consequence come to Mr Anderson prescribed to him what he should do He told him that

Sindia should write a letter himself and procure another to be written from the Shaw disavowing their knowledge of what had been before written and ascribing it entirely to the Error of the Moonahy and in this case he would agree to proceed no farther than Etayah and there wait our Orders for his return if we should approve of it Sindia made no objection to writing such Letters intreated Mr Anderson not to quit his Camp and represented to him that if he thought it proper for the sake of appearance to do so, he was yet not aware of many Consequences that could result from it. At Poona for Instance it would immediately be propagated that he had entered into a war with the English and he was willing to swear by his sword that nothing was farther from his intentions.

31 Mahajee Sindia continued to show great anxiety at Mr Andersons Determination to leave the Camp The day after the first conference he brought the promised Shoka from the Shaw disavowing any knowledge of the Demand of Tribute and declaring that as he considered the English to be his devoted Friends, he never had entertained and never would entertain a thought of this Nature Sindia acquainted Mr Anderson that he had discovered that his Letter authenticating the Shoka of his Majesty had been procured from him to accompany a very inoffensive Letter from the King to the Governor General but that evil designing People availing themselves of the General Manner in which it was expressed had insidiously taken an opportunity to transmit it along with the Shoka in which his Majestys real Sentiments had been so grossly perverted. This Circumstance together with a full and ample Denial of any knowledge of this Transaction on his Part he promised to declare under his seal and Signature to the Governor General and that he would send a Letter to this Effect to Mr Anderson the next morning He did so and both this Letter and the Shaws Shoka were forwarded by Mr Anderson.

32 This Object undertaken with Spirit and accomplished with success a friendly and satisfactory Conversation ensued between Sindia and Mr Anderson and Mr Anderson for
 Translations of them are entered
 in the Proceedings of the 12 May
 Considerations which he stated to us very properly determined not to quit the Camp

33 Sindia declaimed violently against Illmut Bahadro with whom he had lately quarrelled and to whom he in a great degree ascribed the Jealousies that were sown between the two Governments He mentioned indeed an expression of his which he said he had formerly heard and which he now believed to be true that if ever he (Sindia) withdrew his Confidence from him he would use every means in his Power to set him at Variance with the English There is much reason to suppose that Hemmut Bahadro is attached strongly to an Interest not friendly to the Company The Dissention between him and Sindia adds therefore new strength to Your Connection with the Malharatta State

34 Some days after Mr Anderson had adjusted our differences with Sindia, and anticipated our orders for this purpose he
 Cons. 26 May received Your Governor Generals answer to the Shaws

Shoka and Sindia's menacing Letter, which in the discretion vested in him he did not deliver, and we have approved his Conduct in suppressing them.

35 Aware as we are, that opinions are divided in respect to the Right of Shaw Allum to a continuance of the Tribute from these Provinces, and knowing as we do, that the Justice of his Claim is supported by high and respectable Authorities in England, We think it incumbent in us to endeavour to obviate an impression that may be conceived to the prejudice of our late Conduct by those who may not have sufficiently investigated the Motives of it. It may be a Subject of enquiry by some why our resentment has been raised at a Demand founded on Justice, and we may be blamed for it. We will not Canvass the merits of the Claim, for they have undergone full and particular Discussion, nor did they appear to us to make any Part of the General Question before us. The Question before us was whether we should or should not Permit the Dignities of Your Government to be insulted by a Marratta Chief who owed his late Power to your forbearance and his increased reputation to your Connection with him, while he presumed to dictate to us what we should perform, and supported a Shoka which informed us that the Mahiatta Forces were at the Devotion of Shaw Allum and would Act agreeably to his Pleasure.

36 Certain it is that we should have deemed ourself[s] liable to a charge of Imbecility in our Conduct after receiving such a Menace, had we taken no notice of it and as clearly are we convinced that a tame submission to it would have stamped a discredit on Your Government and exposed it to the Derision of surrounding Powers. It would also probably have subjected us to other Insults offered under that Confidence in our Timidity which might be justly warranted from our sufferance of the first, but of such a Nature that they must of necessity have produced an interruption to the Peace of India.

37 We have to observe also that our Measures had become an object of watchful attention on the Change that had lately taken Place in Your Administration, by Mr. Hastings Departure to England, and that we could not be too careful as to the opinion that might be entertained of them. Your Governor General had taken pains to publish to the Native Powers those Principles of a Pacifick System¹ which have been so wisely established in the last Act of the British Legislature, but it was proper also to be publicly understood that these were not to be perverted to any interpretation that could weaken your actual Authority, or reflect Discredit instead of Honor on Your Management of it.

38 The Circumstances of our Differences with Mahajee Sindia created indeed by himself, and the Termination of them, were soon generally known, and the Instrument with which he endeavoured to weaken your Power became that by which he shook the Continuance of his own. Mr Anderson informed us that in the morning after his remonstrance was made Public in Sindia's Durbar, he received Visits from the Vakeels of the different States of India, who attended the Shaws and Marratta Camps, and offered to join the English against Sindia, and we have likewise

Reason to believe from Representations that were made to the Governor General by the Vakeels of several Branches of the Marratta Government that the Reply made to Sindia's Demands would Strengthen our Connection with the Courts of Poona and Nagpore and have a general good Effect in maintaining the tranquillity of Hindostan.

39 We have the Satisfaction to hear that it was the firm and cheerful Resolution of the Nabob Vizier to apply the utmost Resources of his Government in Conjunction with Yours to vindicate the Credit and Establish the Security of both by whatever means we should judge most conducive to those Ends in the Event of an Actual War

40 His Excellency had long been distrustful of Sindia's friendly Intentions and was particularly apprehensive of a Combination between the Marrattas and the Seiks hostile to his Government We will not take upon us to pronounce whether this Judgment of Sindia's Views was or was not sufficiently founded There is some Evidence in its favor and some against it. On the one hand it has been reported to us by Colonel Sir John Cumming that he had been assured by a person deputed to him by the Seiks that they had been instigated by Sindia to Commit their Depredations on Rohilchund at the beginning of the Year and that in Sindia's Negotiation with them for a Treaty of Alliance the Territories of the Nabob Vizier and of the English Gentlemen were held out as objects of attack but on the other Hand it is observable that after the Seiks had committed their Depredations in Rohilchund something like a wish was communicated from Sindia to Colonel Sir John Cumming that we would join him against these People We can reconcile both Facts to the Principles of Native Policy and under any Construction they are at present of little Moment since a Treaty has been actually concluded between Sindia and the Seiks which is not only not offensive to Your Interests and those of the Vizier but in some Degree a security to both The Treaty provides generally that the Seiks shall join Sindia with 5000 Horse that a Jaghoer of 10 Lacks of Rupees shall be given for defraying the Expence in Consideration of their foregoing their Claims to Rakee and that they shall not injure the Territories of the English or of the Nabob Vizier This last Clause in the Treaty was added to it and an alteration made in the Original Draft at the Instance of Mr Anderson and with Sindia's ready assent Indeed his Conduct towards the Vizier and the Company as far as it respects this Treaty has been liberal and fair

41 But altho the Treaty has been actually entered into by several of the Seik Chiefs there is a great Probability that they have not in general any serious Intention of adhering to it It may be presumed that they have seen into the Views of Sindia in Concluding it and discovered his object to be what in Truth it has been confessed by Sindia himself to be eventually hostile to their Power Sindia apprehensive of the Design of the

See Major
Palmer's Lr to
the G G in
Cons. 2d May

Consn. 9th April

See Mr Ander-
son's Letter dated
18th May and re-
corded in Consn.
26 May

Seiks not to abide by the Agreement has detained Dooljah Sing, much against the Inclination of the latter, in the Mahratta Camp, until all the Chiefs of his Confederacy shall have affixed their Seals and Signatures to a Copy of the Treaty which he has transmitted to them for that purpose.

42 The Seiks had made strong overtures for an Alliance with the Company, they have renewed them, and we firmly believe that if your relative Situation to the Mahratta's should ever be different from what it now is, and we trust will long continue to be, the Company and the Vizier would, in this Part of India, find an useful and Active Ally in the Seik Tribes

43 The several Informations that are before us relative to the Seiks Consns. 17 March appear in the Proceedings in the Margin

22 Do	44 In our last Reference to the Movement of the
9 April	Detachment of Your Troops under Col. Sir John Cumming
22 Do	we left it at Anopsheer. It has since returned to Futty
19 Do.	Ghurr. Our Correspondence with Colonel Sir John Cum-
26 Do	ming appears in Abstract in our General Letters over land.
3d May	It is also stated at Length in our Consultations transmitted
12 Do.	to You with this Dispatch, and we forbear at present from any more general
26 Do.	Recital of it since the Subjects are now of little Moment and have ended
7 June	with the Return of the Troops under his Command to their original
	Station.

45 Sindia foreseeing the Length of Time that would be necessary for the Reduction of Ally Ghurr and unwilling to leave this Object unaccomplished, prevailed on the King to forego his Resolution of Proceeding to Delhi and to Canton during the Rains at Muttra. In the mean Time the Vicinity of Your Detachment under Colonel Sir John Cumming operated as a Check upon Sindia's Designs on Ally Ghurr and alarmed him with Respect to their Accomplishment, for he had heard that the Colonel was carrying on a Correspondence with Jehangeer Cawn the Killedar, and he was apprehensive that an Assylum might be afforded to him or rather a Protection given to the Treasure in the Place, for the Possession of this Treasure which included the Effects and Property of the late Ameen Ul Omrah Afrasaib Cawn was the Principal Object of the Conquest, We imagine that the Arguments used in Reply to Mahajee Sindia's Representations on this Subject will have removed his Suspicion of any Interference on the Part of this Government or the Nabob Vizier for the Defence of Ally Ghurr

46 In the Wish of preventing the Consequences that might arise from Possible Disagreements between the Vizier's Subjects and the Mahrattas if Sindia Possessed himself of the Chain of Forts on the Western Frontier, We formerly desired Mr. Anderson to endeavour to prevail on him (but in such Manner as might shew the advice rather to proceed from his own judgement of Sindia's Interest than from our Authority) not to pursue this Line of Conquest He did so, and sounded him on preserving the Fort of Ally Ghurr to the possession of

Cons 9th April

Jehangeer Cawn but so much jealousy was discovered by Sindia on this occasion that Mr Anderson thought it best to relinquish the attempt.

47 Our latest advices from Mr Anderson are Dated the 30th June and inform us that Sindia had detached a considerable Body of his Troops under Nadjiff Cooley Cawn against Ally Ghurr that Nadjiff Cooley had undertaken to negotiate with the Kelledar but it was imagined that the Question would not be peaceably adjusted

48 We are acquainted from the same authority that Shaw Allum was very Anxious to proceed to Delhi but that Sindia having determined to canton with his own Army at Muttrah was very desirous of detaining the King there also

*57 Mr Malet arrived in the Camp of Sindia on the 17th of last May
 Cons 14 June mach has passed between that Chief and Mr Anderson on the Subject of Mr Malet's appointment to the Court of Poona It has long been a Principal and rooted object of Sindia's Policy and Ambition to continue the Exclusive Medium thro which your Connection with the Poonah Government shall be supported and preserved. He knows the Consequence he obtains from such a relation to the Company, and at this Time Particularly it answers very essential purposes of Convenience to the Interests while a Party exists against him in the Darbar of Poonah under the Influence of Furajee Holkar and Hurry Punt Furkia against which the Character he derives from his Connection with the English enables him to make a creditable Stand in aid of that Power which he has gained from the Increase of his Possessions and his late Successes on this Side [of] the Jumna We are not Surprized therefore that he should endeavour to thwart a Measure which in his Conception of it may produce Consequences detrimental to his Views and that he has allowed so forced an assent as he has yet granted and which can hardly be considered as any assent at all to Mr Malet's Deputation We have thought it proper to desire Mr Malet to proceed to the Presidency where he will wait our Determination and Instructions for his further Guidance. Sindia is acquainted with this Order and sensible of the Attention which it exhibits to his Wishes

†61 The Shahzada continues at Lucknow and we believe is well satisfied with his Situation we believe him also sincerely disposed to continue guided by our Wishes in respect to his future Conduct and that he will not attend to any Overtures that may be made to him which are not seconded by our Approval He has a certain Security in the Company's Honor and We retain a Check upon the Views of Mahajee Sindia which we [sic & will] keep him out of the reach of his Power

62. We understand from Mr Anderson that Shaw Allum is far from being easy in his present Situation and that instead of wishing for the return of his Son he is now well pleased that he should continue under our

¶ Paras 49-56 have been omitted as they are duplicates of paras 4-3 of letter dated 23 July 1755

† Paras 53-60 have been omitted as they are duplicates of paras 3-12 of letter dated 23 July 1755.

Protection It, would seem also that Shaw Allum was distrustful of Sindia's Intentions, for he lately sent a private Message to Mr Anderson, in which it was requested that he would represent to Sindia how much the English were interested in the Welfare and Prosperity of his Majesty and that he could not more effectually ingratiate himself with them than by his generous Treatment of him

63 The Correspondence between Your Governor General and the Country Powers appear on our Proceedings, and is also sent a Number in the Packet

64. Towards the End of March last some Conversation passed between Your Governor General and Rajah Govind ram the Vakeel of the Nabob Vizier at this Presidency, in which the Governor General suggested to him his wish that the Vizier might be Punctual in the Payment of his Kists, and urged the necessity of his being so as well as the Possible consequences of the Reverse, and he intimated also the Pleasure he would receive if a Voluntary offer were made by the Vizier to defray the Charge of Your Detachment under Colonel Sir John Cumming, the particulars of this Conversation appears on our Proceedings of the 26th April as written by Raja Govind ram to the Vizier and his Ministers, and laid before the Board by Your Governor General who desired them from the Vakeel in consequence of his having received Letters from the Nabob and Major Palmer, in which it appears that some Offence had been taken at their Contents, and a Charge implied against this Government of Breach of the Engagements with his Excellency The Charge being without foundation the circumstance is no otherwise deserving of Serious Notice than as it may lead to a supposition in others which Major Palmer appears to have entertained, that Your Governor General had been deficient in fairness of Conduct to the Nabob Vizier which we are very sure was very far from his Intention and as it appears to have been the Primary Cause which influenced an Alteration that has lately taken Place in the Management of Your Interests at the Court of Lucnow

65 A Second Letter was received by Your Governor General from Major Palmer in which he takes Notice of the Governor's Answer to the Vizier's Letter alluded to in the foregoing Paragraph, and offers his remarks on it with some freedom, perhaps it may appear to You with a freedom not totally warranted by his relation to the Service and to this Government—certainly not by the Occasion Major Palmer's observations were prefatory to a repetition of the wish he had before expressed to be relieved from his Station whenever the Governor General should think that his services might be dispensed with He observed that he had not declared his wish to be removed at this particular Time nor was it his intention to have desired leave to retire until the Arrangements formed by Mr Hastings had terminated, that it was however perfectly agreeable to him to retire now, and in Consequence of the Governor General's desire, he had sent for Colonel Harper and acquainted him with his intention to leave Lucnow as soon as he was in a Situation to travel and could adjust some necessary Affairs,

66 Your Governor General had formerly intimated to us individually his intention to allow Major Palmer to resign his office at Lucnow whenever he should think proper and our wishes concurred with his that the Succession to it should be vested in Lieutenant Colonel Harper a Gentleman of Experience and Abilities respected for the Integrity of his Character and esteemed by the Nabob Vizier and the Principal Men in his Court.

We were informed on the 14th Ultimo that Your Governor General had accordingly appointed Lieutenant Col. Harper his Agent at the Court of Lucnow

67 Your Governor General was further guided in his Nomination of Lieutenant Colonel Harper to this trust by the approbation which We had given to a Military Plan for the Security of the Vizier's Country which Col. Harper submitted to us individually before he went to the upper Provinces, and to support which the Office of Agent from the Governor General would give him particular Influence and the best opportunities of affording it Public Effect

68. The Governor General availed himself of the occasion that offered on his Announcing to us the Appointment of Lieutenant Colonel Harper to testify to the Board and to your Honble. Court what he thought due to the Merits of an Officer who was not recommended to nor connected with him, but whom upon his former Services to the Company and the well known Satisfaction which his Conduct gave to the Nabob of Oude in the Time of the late Sonjah ul Doulah he had thought it his duty to select for this Trust, in preference to others who had claims to his Support and were nearly interested in the success of his Administration. He was further induced to this Choice as it was most consistent with the Spirit of the Agreement that was made by Mr Hastings with the Vizier in 1784 and because his Excellency had made it his particular request that if Major Palmer left Lucnow Colonel Harper should be his Successor

69 We entertain an high Opinion of Lt Colonel Harper and have an entire Confidence in his Ability and Integrity We approved of the Principle on which the Governor General had nominated this Gentleman to be his Agent at Lucnow and we are hopeful that the other object which we had in Contemplation for Colonel Harper will be forwarded by this appointment We wait Your Orders for the Regulation of Affairs in the Vizier's Country

70 Our Proceedings of the 12th April contain a Claim preferred to us by Mr John Bristow to Sa. Rs. 70,300 in three Bills the first of which states the Salary said to be due to him for the Time that he was out of Employment notwithstanding the appointment which he received from Your Honble Court to be Resident at Lucnow the second requires Payment of Salary and Allowances claimed on the 10th March 1781 but not then passed by the Board to their full Amount and the third is for the Discharge of the Arrears due to him on his last Appointment as Resident at the Vizier's Court These demands are not yet complied with but lie for future Consideration

71 We have the Honor to refer You to our Consultation noted in the Margin for an Account showing the Amount of the Nabob Viziers Debt to the Company at the End of February 1784, and how far it has been encreased or diminished according to the latest Information received by Your Accountant General on the 16th February 1785.

Cons.
5th April

72 Your Accountant General having informed us that the Sums to be charged to the Account of, and received from, his Excellency the Vizier for the Expence of the Troops serving in his Dominions must very materially affect the estimate of the Probable Resources and Disbursements of this Government, and requested that we would inform him of the Amount at which he might estimate those for the Year 1785/6 if those at which they were estimated for 1784/5 might not be adopted on forming the estimate of the ensuing Year of Account, We were of opinion that there could be no Doubt of the Propriety of debiting the Nabob Vizier for the Year 1785/6 for the Brigade at Cawnpore, and the Regiment at Lucnow, tho' there might be some with respect to the Propriety of debiting his Excellency for the expence of the Detachment under Colonel Sir John Cumming for that Year, if from appearances in the upper Provinces there was not a likelihood that the Services of the Detachment would be required, but as there was a probability of Commotions, and as the Vizier had agreed to admit the Charge of the Detachment upon himself, while a necessity existed for it, we resolved that it should be entered in the Estimate Accordingly.

73. On the Return of Your Troops from the Western side of India, the two Rossalahs of Horse that served with it were Attached to the Stations of Cawnpore and Futty Ghurr and we resolved on the 27th February 1784, that an addition should be made to the Nabobs Subsidy for these Troops but as nothing further decisive had passed upon the Subject, Your Governor General wrote to the Vizier for his Permission to Debit his Excellency for these Rossalahs, while they had been in his Country and to continue the same while the[y] should remain in it, it was observed that this Corps was the only Corps of Cavalry in the Service of the Company, and might be essentially useful in his Excellency's Dominions A Similar request was also made with respect to the Company of Chaseurs ordered from Chunarghurr to Cawnpore.

74. The Nabob Vizier has complied with these Applications, but desired that the amounts may be charged to him in the ensuing not the Present Year They will be charged accordingly with other Sums disbursed on his Excellency's account for Military Services performed in his Country.

75 Captain Norman Macleod having applied to us for his Pay and the Disbursements that he made while he had the Charge of a Body Guard of Your late Resident at Lucnow we sent orders to the Accountant at that Station to discharge the Amount which was justly due to Captain Macleod, and to pass the same to the Debit of the Vizier,

Cons
26 April

76 Monnawar Doss, the Son and Vakeel of Gopaul Doss having repeatedly desired Payment of the Amount Borrowed from his Fathers House at Lucnow on the Companys Account in the Year 1783 by Your late Resident We gave orders to our Secretary assisted by the Accountant General and Snb Treasurer to propose the best and easiest Mode of liquidating the Debt to Gopaul Doss nt Calcutta and Benares, observing that the Company were not to be nt a Charge preferred by Munnawar Doss for Loss on Exchange

77 These Gentlemen in Consequence reported to us that as they found by the Representations which had been transmitted by the Accountant nt Lucnow under Date the 20th March that the whole of Your Funds nt that Place not absolutely necessary for the Payment of Your Troops in the Viziers Dominions were actually engaged to be remitted to Calcutta and Surat and as the Premium at which these were engaged to be remitted to Calcutta and the Loss of Interest by the Distance of Time at which they were Payable after Date were matters for which a Compensation would be required the just amount of which Your Secretary and Accountant General and Snb Treasurer were unable to determine with any degree of accuracy they were of opinion that the Resident nt Benares should be directed to remit to Lucnow whatever Balance might remain in his Hands from Time to Time until the Debt to Gopaul Doss should be completely paid making the Remittances as expeditiously as possible and upon Terms most advantageous to your Interests, and that orders should be sent to the Accountant nt Lucnow to keep the Resident at Benares well informed of the Amount due on this Claim Their Motives for this Recommendation appear on our Proceedings of the 12th May

78 We ordered that a Statement of Gopaul Doss's Claim calculated to the End of August next should be sent to the Resident at Benares and to the Accountant nt Lucnow and that the Resident at Benares should remit to the Accountant at Lucnow nt the most reasonable Rates of Exchange whatever Balance may remain in his Hands from Time to Time until all that is required with the aid of the undermentioned Bills from Lucnow to Discharge the Debt to Gopaul Doss shall have been paid off We directed also that the Accountant at Lucnow should make over to Gopaul Doss or his Order the Bills for ten Lacks that are to be granted on Calcutta in the Month of Behawdeen by his Excellency the Vizier if Gopaul Doss should be willing to accept the same with an allowance to [sic] of 3 Per Cent for the Loss of Interest that will accrue by their not being payable in Calcutta until 90 Days after Date

79 The Amount of Gopaul Doss's Claim amounts to the Sum of Lucnow Sa Rs 13 61 00 7 6 exclusive of Interest

80 When this and other Loans were taken up from the Bankers the Lucnow Hooley Sicca Rupees were valued in Account at 50.3 per Cent below Fyzzabad 16 Sun Siccas but as in the Month of May 1784 Your late Governor General directed that the Lucnow Hooley Siccas should

be valued in account as equal to Fyzzabad 16 Sun Siccas Your Accountant General acquainted us that if, of these, the same sum was to be charged in the Lucnow Accounts as was credited for them in Haley Sicca's there would be a difference of Fyzzabad 16 Sun Sicca's 71,910 2 7 between the Sum for which the Lucnow Treasury Accounts were debited for the Receipts of the Principal of this Loan, and that which they would be credited for the Repayment of it, and as these were valued upon the Honble Company's General Books at 11 Per Cent above Current the Loss which would appear upon the Loan would be Current Rupees 79,820 4 6, We were of Opinion that this Loss should be borne by the Nabob Vizier and we accordingly directed the Accountant at Lucnow to Debit his Excellency's Account with it after having apprized him of our Wishes on the Subject.

81 The Attornies of Major James Bowne having laid before us sundry Bills of Disbursements made by that Gentleman, Prior to the 1st February 1785 during his Deputation to the Court of Delhi and Desired the Discharge of them, We gave directions for Passing the same, and as the Expence had been incurred before the Departure of Mr Hastings from Bengal, we ordered that it should be Placed to the account of Durbar Charges incurred during the Administration of the late Governor General

Cons
5th April

82 No alteration having appeared in the Amount charged to have been paid to Mirza Saudet Ally by the Resident at Benares for the Stipend assigned to him by his Excellency the Vizier, correspondent to that which took Place in the Lucnow accounts from the 31st August 1784 when the sum charged Monthly to the Debit of his Excellency's Account was reduced from Rs 25,000 to Rs 1,666 10 8 in Consequence of an Arrangement made by the late Governor General in the upper Provinces, the Resident of Benâris was directed to acquaint the Board with the Instructions which he received from Mr Hastings on this Subject, and at the same time to restrict the future Payment of Sadut Ally's Stipend to its reduced Amount

83 The President acquainting us that he had received no Instructions on this Subject from the late Governor General, the circumstances have been stated to the Vizier who has been informed that the overpayment made to Sedut Ally Sicca Rs 66,666 10 8 was not in the Board's Opinion imputable to them since we did not know of its Existence in proper Time and had actually stopped it as soon as we were informed of its Continuance and the Vizier was requested to allow the Amount to be charged to his Excellency's Debit

Cons
14 June

84 The Viziers Debt to the Company amounted at the end of last Month to Fyzzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rs 25,81,910 9-

85 Baboo Dûrbeetzy sing formerly Naib of the Zemindary of Benares, having died in March last, we sent orders to the Resident to take Proper Measures for securing the Payment of the Debt to the Company, if such Measures had not been adopted before the Receipt of our Instructions, We are persuaded that Mr. Fowke will make every exertion for

this Purpose but we fear without much Effect as the Estate is supposed to be insolvent, or nearly so the Debt amounts to Current Rs. 2 03 023 11 8 besides Interest.

86 The Resident at Benares having transmitted to us a Very full Testimony from the Inhabitants of that City of their entire Satisfaction with the Conduct of Captain Thomas Hogan while he commanded the Battalion which composed the Residents Guard We thought fit to publish our Thanks to Captain Hogan in General Orders.

87 We have the Honor to refer You to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for the Perusal of a Letter addressed to Your Governor General by the Resident at Ferruckabad relative to the State of that Soubahdarry and the unfortunate Condition of the Nabob and his Family * We took the same into our serious Consideration and determined on a Plan for the Relief of the Nabob and his Country which is recorded on our Consultation of the 28th June. We have the Honor to transmit a Copy of our Minnte on this Subject a number in the Packet.

88 We have the Honor to Submit to the Consideration of Your Honble. Court, and to transmit a Number in this Packet a Letter which has been addressed to us by Your Advocate General in which he States his Claim to a Compensation for the Injury he has suffered from Your Orders of the [] January 1784 which directed that he should refund the Sum he had received in Virtue of a Conditional Grant to him from this Government of an Increase to his Allowances, after as he states to us he had rendered the Stipulated Service for which such Grant was made

89 From a full View of his Case and a due regard to the Situation and Circumstances which suggested to this Government the Necessity of securing to itself at an important and dangerous Crisis the exclusive Services of Your Advocate General from a knowledge also of the Ability and Firmness with which he discharged his Duty to the Company at that Period as well as from a Conviction of the Enmity he provoked of the danger to which he was exposed and of the Loss he has sustained we are willing in a Case like this of Peculiar Hardship to adopt any expedient which without evading the Spirit of your Orders may by leading your Attention to the Nature of what he states to be his Agreement with Your Governor General and Council and to the importance of his Services to the Company include a prospect of future Justice to Your first Law Officer in this Country

90 Convinced of the Rectitude of his Conduct and impressed with a just Sense of the able and effectual assistance which he has afforded to us in the Duties of his Office and more especially in those Questions of legal Difficulty which have lately pressed on our Attention, Convinced also that nothing can be more prejudicial to the success of your affairs than that any Instance should remain upon Record of a Recall of the Reward of Public Zeal we have been thus full upon the Subject and are unanimous in referring his Claim to your candid and liberal Reconsideration.

91. That we might not however, act against Law or in any Instance or Degree disobey your orders, we have resolved that the Advocate General shall be required to assign over immediately, at the Company's Treasury, and in Company's Paper, the sum to be refunded, and that such Sum shall become absolutely forfeited in Your favor at the Expiration of two Years from the receipt of this Dispatch in England unless a special Order shall arrive within that Period, directing the said Paper to be returned to the Advocate General, or to his order, a Measure which we apprehend cannot appear to be a Disobedience, or Evasion of Your Commands, since it secures the Amount of the Company's Claim, on the Company's Treasury, and only allows the Advocate General a certain Interval for trying once more, the Effect of an application, at home upon a Subject of much Consequence to his Interests, an Indulgence to which the eminent Services he has rendered, to the Company in the Line of his Profession do in our opinion give him a just Claim

92 The Resident at Balasore having complained to us in strong Terms of Indignities which he had sustained from the Marratta Government at that Place, and earnestly requested our Interference for preventing them in future, and having represented also the Injury sustained from the same source by the Merchants of Balasore who depended on the Company Protection, a Letter has been written by Your Governor General to Rajah Ram Pundit the Naib of Cuttah, which we trust will have the good Effect of preventing such Causes of Complaint in future

93. Various Letters have been Addressed to us since the Date of our Last Dispatch by the Resident at Hyderabad They are recorded on our Proceedings Noted in the Margin. Consns 5th & 26 of April 3d & 12th of May Mr Johnson is now returned to Calcutta and the Expence of his Deputation ended

94 Your Right Honble President and Council at Fort St. George having transmitted to us sundry Papers respecting Damage said to have been done in the Northern Sircars by Your Detachment under Colonel Pearse while it was on its March to Bengal, and requested that Colonel Pearse's opinion should be desired on the Subject, that they might be enabled to determine on the Compensation due to the Renters of the injured Countries We sent the Papers accordingly to Colonel Pearse, who having delivered his Report thereon it was forwarded to Your Administration of Fort St George

95 Your Servants at that Presidency having transmitted to us the Proceedings and Correspondence of the Committee of Assigned Revenue, which conveyed the strongest Proofs of the Ability and good Conduct of that Committee, We thought proper to express our high Sense thereof, and to desire that our Thanks might be conveyed to them We recommended also that their Services should be liberally rewarded

96 On the 14th Ultimo we received a Letter from Your Right Honble President and Council at Fort St George bearing Date the 1st of that Month enclosing Copies of Your General Letters of the 9th and 10th

December 1784 in which You ordered the Surrender of the Assignment to the Naboh of the Carnatio without Delay and Stated the Arrangements, which you desired should be made with the Naboh and the Rajah of Tanjore for defraying the Expences of protecting the Carnatio both in Peace and War The Naboh was informed of Your Orders and of the Intention of Your Servants at Fort St. George to comply with them with as much Expedition as the Nature of such a Change would admit The same Letter acquainted us that Your Right Honble President whose Health had been much impaired by frequent Illness had determined to return to England immediately and that he was strengthened in this Resolution not only by the appointment of Mr Holland who was nominated to succeed him on his Resignation but by the Purport of Your Orders in the Execution of which he could not be a Party consistently with his known Sentiments with the Line he had taken and under the Strong Prejudices which had invariably operated against him in the Mind of the Naboh

97 The Gentlemen at Fort St George observed to us that strongly impressed as they were with the highest sense of Duty and Obedience to the Commands of their Constituents it might yet be permitted them to express their apprehensions of the fatal Consequences that might result from the sudden Abolition of the Assignment Security without any Equivalent or chance of an Equivalent to answer the Various and pressing exigencies of the Service They remarked that Soucars Security was not to be obtained from the Naboh for the heavy Payment he would have to make to the Company nor if obtained for any Part of them could it be depended on that the Principal Soucars had been ruined by their Transactions with the Naboh and that there was not one in the Place whose Security could be safely taken even for so small a Sum as twenty Thousand Pagodas they stated to us the Consequences which they feared would ensue from their being reduced to an absolute Dependence on the Naboh for Supplies and the Experience that had been had of His Highness's Failures in his Money Engagements but admitting him now to possess the purest Intention of fulfilling them they declared that it was impracticable for His Highness in the Management of his own Revenues, to perform what was required of him. They entered into the Question of the Naboh's Resources and Expences as they might be estimated on the Execution of Your Orders and showed a deficiency of above 8 Lacs of Pagodas to answer the Claims to which His Highness was subjected by them and they entreated us to Consider of the most early and effectual means to support them against the heavy and urgent Demands for Arrears, and for the Current Pay of His Majesty's and the Company's Forces on Your Establishment of Fort St George.

98 Lord Macartney having been particularly requested to proceed to Bengal before he took his final Departure for Europe that we might be apprized by his Personal Representations of the Embarrassments which were suffered by Your Administration on the Coast and prepared to afford them all the Relief in our Power and his Lordship being arrived here Your

Cons 28 June Governor General, at the Request of the Board, acquainted his Lordship that we should be happy to receive any Representation which he might be pleased to communicate to us on the Affairs of Your Presidency of Fort St George in General, or more Particularly relative to Your Orders recently received on the Subject of the assignment of the Revenues of the Carnatic

99 About this Time a Letter arrived from the Nabob of Arcot in which His Highness expressed his deep Sense of Your Justice towards Your ancient Friend in restoring to him his Rights of Sovereignty but observed that Your Orders had not yet been carried into Execution

100 Lord Macartney informed Your Governor General on the Subject of the Representations which the Board had, as abovementioned expressed their Willingness to receive, that the Letters from Fort St George had so amply detailed the State of that Presidency that little remained for him to add to them, but if any thing contained in them should appear to require either Explanation or Opinions from him, he should give them with the utmost Readiness to the best of his Judgement and Ability With Respect to the Surrender of the Assignment to the Nabob, he referred to his Sentiments that were before us in a Minute which he had delivered at Fort St George, and the Letter which accompanied it, and he declared his Conviction that the Surrender of the Assignment, whether considered as a Measure of State, or of Finance must infallibly draw with it the Ruin of Your Affairs on the Coast of Coromandel His Lordship anticipated the Period, and that an early one, at which Your Presidency of Fort St George would be compelled from necessity to resume by Force that Revenue which they now Peaceably possess by another Title, but he observed that in the mean Time, the Loss would be heavy, and immediate, the good Faith of the Company, pledged to the Renters under the Confidence of the Assignment would be irretrievably forfeited, and every difficulty with regard to our Neighbours on the Coast be sharpened and redoubled

101 His Lordship confessed himself at a Loss under the Present Circumstances to propose any middle Mode, or Conciliatory Expedient for extricating the Company's Representatives from the Dilemma [Dilemma] into which they have been thrown by Your late Orders on the Subject of the Assignment He stated the Case to be reduced to this In order to save the Company's Interests in the Carnatic from the Ruin impending over them, either the Assignment should, by the declared Interposition and Orders of the Governor General and Council, be preserved inviolate as it now stands, till farther Directions be received here upon a reference of the matter (he might say) from the Company itself, ill informed as it has been, to the Company well informed as it may be, or effectual Means should be instantly provided, and secured by the Governor General and Council to answer the deficiencies and remedy the Mischiefs which must inevitably follow the Surrender of the Assignment

102 Lord Macartney further submitted, whether as the Orders of Your Honble Court, of the 9th December, declaring Your Personal

attachment to the Nabob of Arcot and Your Reliance on his generosity could only be applied to the Nabob himself and by no means to his Second Son or Minister Ameer ul Omrah who in Disposition of Character was perfectly unlike what You supposed the Nabob to be and had the Management of his Affairs it might not be worth considering how far an Instruction conveying a Complimentary Confidence to the Nabob individually should operate or extend to his Minister, in whom it was well known that no Confidence ought to be reposed of any kind whatsoever

103 A Fairness of Proceeding towards Your Government at Fort St. George and towards Lord Macartney himself has induced us to be careful and minute in stating the Arguments which they have respectively urged on the Subject of Your Orders for restoring the Assignment of the Revenues of the Carnatio to the Nabob of Arcot. We weighed them with Impartiality and with the attention which their Importance merited, We were aware of the Inconvenience and Loss of Revenue which might immediately result from a Transfer of the Collections from the Charge and Controul of Your Servants to the Management of the Nabob and his Ministers but we could not authorize Your Presidency of Fort St. George either to suspend or Delay the Execution of Your Commands

*107 We have already had the Honor to Communicate to Your Honble Court the Substance of our Correspondence with Your Right Honble. President and Council at Fort St. George relative to Sir John Burgoyne's Agreement with us for recruiting his Majesty's 23d Regiment and Light Dragoons with Horses We have received several Letters on this Subject from Fort St George since the Date of our last Dispatches, We beg leave to refer You to them and shall content ourselves with remarking in this Place that Your Servants at Fort St. George continued to reproach us with Inattention to their Presidency in having agreed to Sir John's Proposition without Consulting them altho it must have been obvious to them that we could only be influenced in doing so by our Zeal for the General Welfare of the Company, and the safety of their Presidency in Particular

108. The Letters which Sir John Burgoyne has addressed to us on this Subject are recorded on our Proceedings of the 5th April, 12th May and 7th June They acquaint us with the safe arrival of the Horses purchased for him at Hyderabad and the Complete execution of his Contract The President and Council at Fort St George having declined to refund to Sir John Burgoyne some Extra Expences to which he had been put on Account of the Feed of the Horses &c. he has drawn on us for the Amount being Star Page. 3005 and we have ordered his Bill to be accepted.

109 Towards the beginning of the Month of April last Sulf Jung the Commander of a Party of Troops in the Service of his Highness the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn crossed the Kistna and entered the Company's Districts in Pursuit of the Zemindar of a Place called Nundramah upon whom the

* Paras 104-06 have been omitted as they are duplicates of paras 14-17 of letter dated 23 July 1745.

Nizam (to whom he is tributary as well as to the Company) had a Claim, but we had soon after the satisfaction to learn that the matter had been adjusted, and that he had repassed the Kistna on the 17th of the same Month.

110. In Consideration of the very pressing Representations which we received from Your Administration at Fort St. George of their distress for Money, we consented to their drawing on us for a present Supply to the Amount of five Lacs of Rupees

111 Your President and Council at Bombay having complained to us of the Conduct of the Pundit employed by Mahajee Sindia as Governor of the City; and Pergunnah of Broach, and having transmitted a Letter to us from their President at that place, pointing out the Situation of their Factory, and the Privileges which they deemed necessary to be obtained to render it either creditable, or beneficial to the Company We took the Subject into our Consideration, and were of opinion, that Sindia could not reasonably be expected to consent to some of the requisitions, which they recommended to be made to him, and that others in the number of them were intended to prevent Inconveniences which might be removed without any Representation on our Part.

112. Our Sentiments at large are contained in a Minute delivered on the 12th May, and communicated to the Gentlemen at Bombay, and to Mr Anderson, who has been directed to obtain Sindia's Sanction to such of the Propositions contained in the Letter from the Resident at Broach, as met with our Approbation

113 The President and Council at Bombay, have since the Date of our last Dispatches, acknowledged the Receipt of the Instructions which we thought it necessary to give to them for their Conduct in Regard to the Disputes between the Peshwa and the Siddee of Ragepoor, and acquaint us that, although it would be with much Regret that they should see the Marratta State Possess itself of the Fortress of Gingerah, we may be assured that they will take no Steps to save that Place from its impending Fate should the Peshwa Pursue his late Resolutions against the Siddee, except those of the most friendly Mediation We are happy therefore to think that there is no Danger of the Peace of Your Settlements in the West of India being interrupted on this occasion and as the late Letters which we have received from Bombay do not mention these Disputes we are not without Hope that they have been amicably adjusted

114 A Letter having been received by us addressed to Your late Governor General, by the Governor of Bombay recommending an Application to Sindia for his Influence in procuring Payment of a Debt due to the Company by the Sawant Boncello his Kinsman who is represented to have attacked and Plundered the Company's Factory at Vingorla in a very unwarrantable Manner during the Residency of Mr Henshaw, We desired Mr Anderson to represent the Circumstances to Sindia, who has professed his Ignorance of the Affair, but promised to enquire into it

115 A Report having been propagated in Calcutta, at the time when it was known that his Majesty's Brig the Lizard was on her Passage from

Bombay with the late act of Parliament for the better Regulation of Your Concerns in India that Your present Governor General had been removed from a Seat in the Government and this Report having been asserted in a Letter from Mr Hutchinson Your Resident at Anjengo to have been communicated to him by the Officer of the Lizard who delivered the Dispatches at that Place. Mr Mitchel the Officer of the Lizard who had been sent on Shore on this occasion by Capt Fitzroy thought it necessary to address a Letter to his Commanding Officer on the Arrival of the Lizard in Calcutta disavowing his having ever communicated any Intelligence of this Nature to Mr Hutchinson His Letter was laid before the Board by the Governor General on the 9th of April accompanied by a Recommendation that it might be transmitted to Your President and Council at Bombay that Mr Hutchinson might be able to remove any Impression to his Prejudice as the Author of the Report in Question with an Express Stipulation however that he should incur no Censure from the Governor of Bombay on this Account.

116. The Governor General's Recommendation was accordingly complied with and a Copy of his minute on the whole of the Subject goes home a Number in the Packet and merits your Perusal of it

117 The Rance of Cananore having applied to us for our Interference to procure Redress for her against a Person of the Name of Hadjoo Mahomed Nokada who commanded a Vessel in her Service and was said to have sold it in Bengal on his own Account with the Cargo after having murdered some of his Officers. Enquiry was made regarding him when it appeared that he had taken Refuge in Serampoor and the Case having been Stated to Your Advocate General he gave it as his Opinion that even if he resided within the Town of Calcutta so long as he demeaned himself peaceably and honestly We could on no account seize or deliver him over, nor could he while residing here be deprived of the smallest Part of his Property or compelled otherwise than by Course of Law to pay to her Agents the Property which she States him to have fraudulently deprived her of and that the only Favor we could grant to her on the occasion would be to order the Law Servants of the Company to assist her in any Suit to be instituted against him in the Supreme Court

118 The State of Your Treasures is as follows

Ready Money			
General Treasury	73713.	6	4
Khalsah	41103	13	1
		114817	3 5
Bills Receivable			
General Treasury Sa Rs			
	1005199	11	1106031 13 11
Khalsah Do	51179	6 18 1	97619 2 3
			1-03000 2
Mint			
General Treasury			
Khalsah	Sa. Rs	7100	5 -

8340 12. 3

Unsorted Treasure

Khalsah

From Burdwan 4086 1. -.

4086. 1. Valued at 10 Per Ct. better
than C. Rs.

4494. 10. 9

Current Rs.

1391332. 10 7

Balance Account deposits

912531. 14. 10

Do. Accomptant General to the

Mayors Court

116918. 3 3

Do of the Old Bonded Debt on
which the Interest by Public

Advertisement

45117. - 8

New Bonded Debt at 8 Per Cent 15728836 11. 2

4 Per Cent Remittance Loan 856840. -. -. .

Annuities

- -. -. .

17660243. 13. 11

Fort William,
31 July 1785.
[Per *Swallow*]We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful Humble Servants,
John Macpherson/Ro. Sloper/
John Stables/Chas. Stuart.

50

LETTER DATED 31 JULY 1785

[Foreign Department]

Restitution of territories to the French and the Dutch—Dutch trade.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies.

[1] We have the honor to transmit to you by your Ship *Swallow* which is now under Dispatch a Broken sett of our Proceedings in this Department from the 15th February last to the 19th Inst enclusive with Index, and we avail ourselves of the same Opportunity to Convey to you a narrative of our Proceedings since the Date of our Advices of the 22nd February by your Ship *Earl of Mansfield*

French

[2] An Application having been made to your Right Hon'ble

President and Council at Fort St George by Brigadier General Contanceau and Mr Moneran Intendt. at Pondicherry for delivering up the Sieur Paul

Consultation
17th March Darifat, lately a merchant at Mauritius whom they re-
presented to have made a fraudulent Bankruptcy and
plundered the Royal Treasury and to have taken up
his Residence at Madras under the name of the Chaval. de la Beauvo
they were given to understand that he had disappeared from Madras and
was supposed to have gone to one of the Danish Settlements. The Gentle-
men of your Council at Fort St George Communicated these Circumstances
to us and requested that we would obtain a Communication of the Senti-
ments of his Majesty's Judges on a question naturally arising from this
Requisition that they might be enabled on any Future application of a
similar nature to adopt a Line sanctified by legal Authority

[3] The Opinion of the Judges having been accordingly desired and
received a Copy of it was transmitted to Fort St. George. It stated that

Consultation
19th April We should not be justified by any legal authority in
delivering up to a Foreign power a Person accused of
Deinquency who being entitled to local Protection in
Return for his local Allegiance ought to have the benefit of the British
Laws by which no man can be deprived of his Liberty without due
Process after sufficient Examination and Evidence

[4] The Chavallier De la Beauvo has since arrived in this Settlement
and an application has been made to us by the Visconte
Consultation
27th June de Souillac Governor General on the part of his most
Christian Majesty in India and Mr Moaneron similar
to that which had been made to your Right Hon ble President and Council
at Fort St. George We were influenced by the Opinion of the Judges in
declining to Comply with the Requisition

[5] A Letter was addressed by our Secretary to the Secretary of
your Hon ble Court on the 31st March last advising him for your In-
formation of the Restitutions ordered in the Definitive Treaty between
Great Britain and France having taken place on the Coast of Coru-
mandel

[6] Your administration at Fort St George have communicated
this Event to your President and Council at Bombay and Orders have
been issued by them to the Resident and Factors at Tell-
Consultation
17th June cherry to deliver up Mahi and its Dependencies to any
Person who may be properly authorized to receive it on
the Part of his Most Christian Majesty

[7] No Application whatever was made to us on the Part of the
French Nation for the Restitution of their Possessions in Bengal until the
27th June last when we received a Letter from the Visconte de Souillac
acquainting us with his Excellency's Arrival upon the Coast and that he
had been appointed by his Most Christian Majesty,
Consultation
27th June Governor General of all the French Settlements on this
side of the Cape of Good Hope He acquainted us also

that His Most Christian Majesty had given Monsieur Dangereux a Commission of Agent of the French Nation in Bengal, with Power to treat with us for the Restoration of Chandernagore, and the other Factories dependant on it conformably to the Stipulations contained in the 13th Article of the late Treaty

[8.] We at the same time received a Letter from Mr. Dangereux desiring to be informed in what manner we wished to treat for the Restoration of the French Possessions and Offering to repair to Calcutta if we should think his Presence Requisite for that Purpose.

[9] Being of Opinion that the Appointment of a Commissary to treat with Mr Dangereux, and to act under our Orders for giving Effect to the 13th Article of the Definitive Treaty was a necessary Measure, Our Choice fell on Mr John Wilton a Junior Merchant in your Service, who from his Competent Knowledge of the French Language and on other

Accounts appeared to be well qualified for such Office.
 Consultation 27th June Mr Wilton having been accordingly nominated to proceed upon this Service, was furnished with a Commission under our signatures, and the Seal of the Company, and with Instructions for his Guidance in the Discharge of the Duties entrusted to him.

[10] Mr Wilton's Instructions attend you number in the Packet. By these you will perceive that altho' the Stipulation in the 13th Article of the Treaty of Peace for securing to the Subjects of France in this Part of India as well as on the Coast of Orixá, Coromandel and Malabar a safe, free and Independant Trade, does not specify the Province of Bahar. Yet we were of Opinion that it was intended to put the Trade of the French in all Places within the Dewaníe Provinces on the same footing on which it stood in the Time of the French East India Company, and we accordingly directed Mr Wilton to consider it in that Point of View, wishing to avoid giving any, the least Cause for Complaint of any Prevarication in our Conduct or any Ground of Public Remonstrance to the Court of Versailles

[11] Mr Wilton having Repaired to Ghyretty, where Mr Dangereux was informed that it was our wish that the Conferences should be held, Had an Interview with that Gentleman for the Discussion of his Claims on the 11th of July, among which it appeared that he considered *Ghyretty an actual Dependance and appendage to Chandernagore*

[12] No Mention having been made of Ghyretty in Mr Wilton's Instructions, he acquainted Mr Dangereux that he was not at Liberty to acquiesce in his Claim, but that in the Interim he was ready to give up Chandernagore and until our Decision was known regarding Ghyretty he would desire the Commanding Officer to keep a Havildar's Guard there as usual Mr Dangereux replied that orders were positive, not from Mr Le Visconte de Souillac alone but from the Ministers at the Court of Versailles, to receive the French Possessions in toto, and that he could not take Possession of Chandernagore whilst any other Claim remained undecided on.

[13] In support of the Claim to Ghyretty Mr Dangereux produced a Letter from Mr George Vansittart appointed Commissary for the Restoration of the French Possessions in Bengal in the year 1765 to the Sieur Law de Lauriston on which he laid much Stress as establishing the Justice of his Demand. The said Letter declares that the Garden of Ghyretty having been in the Possession of the French Company at the Commencement of the year 1749 is included in the Expression 'Chandernagore and its Dependencies.'

[14] The Negotiations having been delayed till the Result of our Decision on the Reference made to us on this occasion might be known, we lost no Time in taking the subject into our serious Consideration

[15] A Reference to the Proceedings in the Revenue Department on the 13th and 20th of April 1779 (Extracts from which as far as regards the Point in Question are recorded in the Consultation noted in the Margin) will show to your Honble Court the Nature of the Claim preferred by the late Lieut General Sir Eyre Coote to a Property in the lands and House as well as the Grounds on which the Gentlemen who then composed your Council decided on the Subject. It will also appear to you from these Documents that Sir Eyre Coote was put in full Possession of Ye House and Lands at Ghyretty which were made over to him with every necessary Formality and for which a Lackarage Sunnud¹ was granted conveying to him a Right of Permanent Property in the same.

[16] After mature deliberation on the Circumstances of ye Case we instructed Mr Wilton to acquaint Mr Dangereux that if he should chuse to take Possession of Ghyretty as a Dependence on Chandernagore (as it is Considered in Mr Vansittart's Letter to Sieur Law the Original we desired might be produced and proved to Mr Wilton's Satisfaction) and if he should chuse to take Possession of it subject to such Claims or Demands as might be established to any part of the Ground at Ghyretty whether it were that on which the whole or any part of the House is built or otherwise we would not oppose him in taking such Possession nor permit any Force to be used against him and in order to prevent a Subject comparatively trivial and unimportant from creating any Difference between the English and French Nations at the same time that we thought it incumbent on us not to infringe the Rights of Individuals we proposed that all papers and Representations relative to the House Garden and Grounds might be transmitted to the Courts of London and Paris and the Opposite claims left to the final Adjustment of the Ministers of Great Britain and France.

[17] If this Proposition should be rejected by Mr Dangereux and if he should insist on our cancelling the Claim possessed by any Person or Persons to Ghyretty as private Property, before he would agree to receive the Cession of Chandernagore We directed Mr Wilton to protest against him as exacting from us Conditions which we had not the Power of performing, and to declare him responsible for not receiving Chandernagore and

its Dependencies in the only regular, and legal manner in which they could be restored

[18] These our Orders having been communicated by Mr Wilton to Mr Dangereux, that Gentleman readily agreed to accept of the Surrender of Ghyyetty on the Terms proposed, and every Preliminary having been previously settled the Town of Chandernagore was accordingly given up to Mr Dangereux on the 27th Instant and on the same day the Guards having been withdrawn from the Barriers of the place and from Ghyyetty the French took Possession thereof We understand from Mr Wilton that the Restitution of the other French Possessions will probably take up some days longer, but that he thought it his Duty to settle what [he] regarded the Delivery of Chandernagore immediately that we might have it in our Power to transmit Accounts thereof to England, and to put a final stop to the Subsistence granted to the French Inhabitants, who are all highly sensible of the Humanity of our Government towards them

[19] We have the honor to transmit Copies of Mr Wilton's Letter to us on this occasion and of the Instrument of Surrender of Chandernagore and the other Papers which accompanied it Numbers in the Packet

[20] We think it proper to acquaint you that Mr. Richard Johnson, Attorney for the Proprietors of Ghyyetty, has sent in a Protest against us for putting the French Government in Possession of that Place, stating that the House and Ground thereat was purchased by Husin Reza Cawn, and Hydar Cawn, from the late General Sir Eyre Coote.

[21] Our last Letter advised you of the abolition of the Court of Justice at Chandernagore, and the Reduction of the Establishment annexed to it, excepting the Office of Curattier General which was continued to Mr de Bretel It having been afterwards represented to us that the Office of Greffier was also necessary for the performance of sundry indispensable Duties in the Settlement, We agreed to continue Mr De Calnois in that Station on the reduced salary of 100 Rupees per Month, and on condition of his taking charge of the Records of the late Court of Justice

[22] Our Sub Secretary was in Consequence of this Resolution deputed to Chandernagore to deliver over the 'Records of the Court to M. De Calnois and to take his receipt for the same, and claim having been preferred to us by Madam Le Conte for some recompence for the use of an Apartment in her House which had been engaged since the Month of October 1779 for holding the Notarial Papers of the Place, we directed him to report to us on the Justice of her demand which having been established to our satisfaction we allowed Madam Le Conte the sum of 20 Rupees Per Month during that Period.

[23] A complaint having been preferred by a Native of the Name of Bowanny Churn against M De Bretel the Jemmidar of Chandernagore accusing him of Partialty and Injustice in his judicial Capacity we directed our Sub-Secretary at the same time to enquire into the Circumstances

Consultation
1st March

Consultation
20th May

of the Case and report them to us on his return from Chandernagore.

[24] He accordingly did so and it appeared that Bowany Churn had been influenced by litigious and improper motives in his charges against the Jamadar. We again referred the Charge which had given occasion to his complaints to the Decision of M. De Bretel, and acquainted Bowanny Churn that he might have his Remedy after the Trial in an appeal to us but that if on hearing such appeal his Conduct should appear to have been improper he would be made responsible for the Consequences of it.

[25] M. De la Merlier having applied to us for Assistance in the Recovery of a Debt due by Kisanopersand Roy Raja of Kisanaghur to a person of the name of Kisanopursand Chowdry for whom he had become Security to the French East India Company We acquainted him that we could not interfere on the occasion as we never took part in such Transactions even in Causes where your own Servants are concerned but that if he was inclined to prosecute his Claim the Courts of Justice of the Country were open to him for Redress.

[26] You were informed by our advices of the 8th December last of the Causes which had prevented us from transmitting to you a complete and exact statement of the Sums which had been advanced by us since the beginning of the war for the subsistence and maintenance of the French Prisoners in Bengal together with the necessary Receipts, attested Accounts and other authentic Titles relative thereto as directed by the orders from your Hon ble Court of the 24th September 1783

[27] These causes are removed by the Progress which has been made in executing the Stipulations of the Definitive Treaty with France and by the Consequent Stoppage of the Pensions to the Prisoners of War and we flatter ourselves with the Expectation of having it in our power to comply with your Commands at a very early Period.

[28.] Copies of the affidavits proposed by the Company's Attorney to be annexed to the Vouchers of Disbursements and approved by the Advocate General appear on our Proceedings noted in the Margin, and Mr Leonard Collings the Predecessor of Mr Molony in the Office of Commissary at Chandernagore has been called to Calcutta to attest the Vouchers, and Accounts of his own Disbursements in the Presence of one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature.

Dutch

[29.] Our last advices from this Department informed you of the Progress which had been made in the Execution of the Stipulation of the Definitive Treaty with the States General of the United Provinces. We have the pleasure to acquaint you that we have since received a Letter from the Gentlemen of the Council at Columbo expressing their Satisfaction with the Resolutions

we had passed in Regard to the Restitution of Trincomalay, and returning us their thanks for so readily agreeing to deliver up Chinsurah to the Representatives of their Nation They further acquainted us that Mr. Senamount[?] Commandant on the part of his Most Christian Majesty at Trincomalay had been nominated by M de Contenceau to deliver over that Place and the Forts belonging to it to the Commissaries of the Dutch Company, and we have since had the pleasure to learn that these Forts were accordingly delivered over to the Commissioners from Columbo, on the 23rd April last

[30] The Gentlemen of the Council of Columbo at the same time complained to us that their former Establishments on the Coasts of Madura and Malabar, and those on the Coast of Coromandel formerly belonging to Negapatam had not been restored notwithstanding their Requests to the Government of Madras respecting them, and they desired us to Issue the necessary Directions for this purpose as soon as possible, as they had appointed Commissaries to receive Charge of the Places from such Gentlemen as might be nominated at Fort St George to deliver them over

[31] On the 31st of March your President and Council at Fort St George transmitted to us, a Copy of a Correspondence which had been held between the Government of Columbo and Mr Irwin, their superintendant of the southern Revenues, on the subject of the Restitutions and acquainted us that they had directed Mr. Irwin to deliver over the Town and Fort of Tatacorin, and the other Dependencies of Columbo on the same footing as we had directed the Dutch Factories in Bengal to be given up, and that they should proceed to make the mutual Cessions on the Coast of Coromandel as soon as they heard that the French Commissaries had executed our Intentions in delivering up Trincomalay They at the same time submitted to our Judgement the Propriety of retaining Possession of Pulcat until a satisfactory arrangement could be made for the Discharge of a considerable Debt which was owing to you for the maintenance of Dutch Prisoners

[32] We could by no means agree to authorize the President and Council at Fort St. George to retain Pulcat, or any other Place in their hands for this Purpose, because no Provision had been made for such Delay in the Treaty with the States General and because we imagined that if permitted it might be considered as an Infraction of it

[33] We therefore recommended it to them to apply to the Chief and Council at Columbo or to the Government General of Batavia for the Reimbursement of those Charges which had been defrayed at their Presidency on account of the Dutch Prisoners

[34] We also acquainted them that as Trincomalay had been restored the Dutch, we had no doubt but a time had been fixed for effecting the Mutual Cessions to be made on the part of his Britannic Majesty and the States General on

the Coast of Coromandel, and altho we have not yet received any Intelligence of their having actually taken place we assure ourselves that there will be no further Causes of Delay and that nothing will remain to be done to complete the Stipulations of the Treaty in every part of India as we have already been advised from Bombay of the Restitution of the Dutch Factory at Surat and as the Gentlemen at Fort St. George have also acquainted us that they had given Directions for the Restitution of all the Dutch Settlements on the Coast of Coromandel and hoped to inform us soon that their Orders had been obeyed.

[35] We take this Opportunity of congratulating your Hon^{ble} Court on the Completion of national arrangements of the General Peace a Work which we consider of real importance to your Interests in India since it holds out an Assurance to the Native Powers that we have effectually Concluded Peace with France and Holland and that our Arms are now more disengaged and in greater Force to be employed for the Security of your Possessions.

[36] Several Complaints have lately been transmitted to us by your
 Consultation President and Council at Bombay against Gopaul Row
 12th April the Governor of the City of Broach on the part of Mahajee Sindia for permitting the Dutch to make up an Investment of Piece Goods in that City and Purgunna on their Old Phoorza Privileges, in express Contradiction to the Terms of Sindia's Agreement with us. These Complaints having been also transmitted to your Resident with Mahajee Sindia, he stated the Circumstances to your Chief who assured him in the most solemn manner that he knew nothing of them and could not believe that his Officer would venture on a
 Consultation measure of this Kind without Permission from him which
 12th May he declared he had never given. He also said that if the Gentlemen at Bombay [had] positive Information of the Fact he would not contradict it, but he could account for it on no other supposition than that of the Dutch having purchased the Goods in an underhand manner by means of others and thus deceived his Officers. He also very readily gave directions to his Monshee to write to the Aumil prohibiting him in the strongest Terms from permitting the Dutch or any other European Nation except the English to carry on Trade in the Town and Purgunna of Broach and declared that the Report of his Intention to allow them to establish a Factory there was totally groundless.

[37] We flatter ourselves that these Orders will prevent all Cause of future Complaint on ye part of your President and Council
 Consultation at Bombay who have acquainted us that they mean to
 12th April make a Strict enquiry on the spot into the Origin and nature of the Dutch Establishment at Broach^a with the Authorities on which their late Factories there were founded the Result of which they would immediately communicate to us and embrace the earliest Opportunity of conveying to your Secret Committee that you might be prepared to answer to any Questions that might arise on this subject. In the mean

time they have informed us that the Dutch have had a Factory at Broach for more than a Century past, tho' they believed on no better authority than private Commercial Agreements with the Nabobs, as no Phirmaunds were discovered among their Papers, nor any other Documents to lead to the Opinion that their Privileges in that City were better founded while it is an undoubted fact that their Factory House was built by and still continues the private property of a Family who have been their Brokers for an hundred years past

[38] Since the Date of our last Dispatches, repeated Applications have been made to us by the Director and Council at Chinsura to Order the Agent of the Opium Contractor at Patna to deliver to their Agent at that Place as much Opium in its Crude State as should be necessary for preparing 900 or 1000 Chests, as we had hoped to have received from your Hon'ble Court specific Instructions prepared in Consequence of the Ratification of the Definitive Treaty on this and every other Point which bore a relation to our Connection with the Foreign Powers possessing Establishments in Bengal We avoided giving any immediate Reply to those Requisitions The Subject of them has been already discussed in the Year immediately proceeding the Commencement of the late War, as will appear from the Extracts from the Proceedings in Public Dept of the 24th January, 10th April, and 1st May 1780 which are recorded in the Consultation noted in the Margin It was then agreed that the Annual Supply of Opium to the Dutch Company, should be fixed at 800 Chests, but if from War, or unfavorable Seasons, or any other Public calamity, there should be a Diminution of the Quantity produced a proportionate Deduction should be made from the Quantity allowed to them This Resolution however having been formed in Consequence of some Concessions which were to have been made on their part, and of a mutual agreement which was to have taken place between the Supreme Council of Batavia, and this Government, it can only be considered as conveying an Indulgence not as establishing their Claim to such annual Provision in future

[39] The Supply of funds in China for loading your Ships of the Season with Cargoes for the Sales in London having become an Object which required all our attention, and our Advertisements for Remittances for that purpose to Canton having produced no Considerable Effect, the Governor General brought the Subject before us on the 27th of June accompanied by a Proposition, that we should apply to the Gentlemen of the Council at Chinsura to know whether in their Opinion the Government of Batavia would agree to Pay into the Company's Cash at Canton before February 1786, the Amount of the Price of such Quantity of Opium and Saltpetre, as we might allot for their use for the present year as he understood from Mr Herklot the Chief that the Gentlemen at Chinsura had no authority of themselves to enter into any Engagements to that Effect on the part of their Superiors, and this mode of Remittance, if it could be

adopted appearing to us to be more advantageous to your Interests than any other which we could at present pursue we have requested the Sentiments of the Gentlemen at Chinsura regarding it and have received a Letter from them in Reply in which they acquaint us "that it is impossible for them to enter into any Engagements with Respect to the Payment at China and much less that this could take Effect in February next, this depending entirely on what the supreme Council of Batavia may think proper to do

[40.] With regard to the Question of what Quantity of Opium and Saltpetre they shall be annually allowed, they deny our Right to limit them in this Respect in any degree, but mean to refer the subject to the Discussion of their Superiors at Batavia, and will for the present rest satisfied with such proportion as we may think proper to allot to them

[41.] The Subject of this Letter shall have our early Consideration and in the mean Time we have the Honor to transmit a Copy of it for your Information a number in the Packet.

[42.] We have received Advice from Columbo of the Death of Mr Valek the Governor of that Place who has been succeeded in the Chair by Mr Van de Graaf.

Fort William,
31st July 1785

We have the Honor to be,
Hon ble Sirs.

51

LETTER DATED 31 JULY 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Retrenchment and reforms—audit of public accounts—payment of Company's debts

TO the Hon ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon ble Sirs

1. Since the date of our last Advice from this Department of the 29th of April, we have been unremittingly employed in effecting a Reduction in the Expenses of your Government We have now the honour to communicate to you the Progress which we have made in this necessary Work, and to transmit to you a Broken Sett of our Proceedings from the 22nd March to the 19th July inclusive.

2. Among other Objects of Reform which called for our Attention was the Relief of your Ally the Nawab Vizier from the very heavy Burthen which Report informed us was imposed on him in Allowances granted to your Servants and others resident in his Dominions, but

granted without our knowledge or Approbation. The Governor General having received from Major Palmer an Account of all these Allowances, laid the same before us, for our Consideration. Major Palmer's Letter to the Governor General and the Statement which Accompanied it are recorded in the Consultation noted in the Margin. The Cons 3rd May following Orders and Resolutions were passed thereupon and communicated to the Nawaub Vizier and Major Palmer for immediate Effect

3 We restricted the allowances to the Governor General's Agent at Lucknow to the Amount usually paid to a Minister of this Government at a Foreign Court Vizt Sonat Rs 2,988 Per Month

4 We reduced Mr Wheler's Allowances as Assistant to the Accountant at Lucknow to the Amount usually granted to the Assistants to Foreign Ministers Vizt Sonat Rupees 512 Per month

5 We permitted Lt Coll Martin, Keeper of the Nawaub Vizier's Arsenal to draw only the difference between his Pay and Batta as a Captain which he receives from the Company, and the Pay and double Batta of his Rank as Lt. Colonel

6 We directed that Mr Blane and Mr Bruce Surgeons to the Vizier and to the Civil and Military Establishments at Lucknow should draw only the Pay, Batta and allowances of full Surgeons in the Field Vizt. Sonat Rs 684 Per Month

7. We restricted the allowances to the Officer Commanding the Regiment at Lucknow to the Monthly Amount paid to the Commanding Officer of a Regiment of Sepoys on Service in the Vizier's Dominions Vizt Sonat Rupees 1,536 Per Month

8 The Salaries paid to Major Browne and his Secretary Mr Bird ceased of course in consequence of the Embassy to Shah Allum having been withdrawn, and the Governor General's Agent has been directed to acquaint the Vizier that those paid to Lt Anderson, Resident with Mahajee Scandia to Capt Frith, to Mr Gall Assistant to the Auditor General and to Mr Orr Assistant to Mr Wombwell cannot be Authorized

9. We have annulled the appointments of Messrs Gregory, Grant & Johnstone as assistants to the Civil Estabt at Lucknow, as well as that of Mr Taylor the Dawk Master, but the Governor General has been authorized by us to continue that Gentleman in his Station if he should think it necessary to his correspondence with Lucknow that there should be a Dawk Master there

10 Having called upon Mr Wombwell, the Paymaster General and Accountant at Lucknow, to State to us the Amount which he drew either from the Company, or from the Vizier for these offices, and to acquaint us with the average monthly amount of his Commission, Consn 12th May and having received from that Gentleman an account of the same, we resolved that his Commission should be annulled from the 1st of June, and that the Establishment of his Offices of Accountant at Lucknow and Paymaster General beyond the Provinces should be taken

into Consideration when our Resolution of the 11th March last that no Civil Servant should be permitted to draw the allowances and salaries of more than one office, should be carried into execution.

11 The Allowances granted by the Vizier of one Lack of Rupees per annum to the Officers commanding in his Excellency's Dominions in lieu of Bazar Customs have been discontinued and the Mode which was in practice before the Year 1781 for supplying the Camp Bazars in the Nawab's Country with Provisions has been removed under the following Regulations, which we doubt not will insure constant supplies to the Army and prevent all grounds of complaint from his Excellency's Officers in future similar to those which gave occasion to the former Regulation.

1st That the Commanding Officers do not on any account whatsoever issue Perwannas for any Articles but the Provisions actually required for the Consumption and use of the Officers, Soldiers and Camp followers at their respective Stations

2ndly That they do not collect Duties upon any Articles before such Articles shall be brought into their Bazars. Every Commanding Officer being responsible in a great measure for the supply of his Camp these Duties will of course be reasonable or no Provisions will be brought into it. There is therefore no Occasion to restrict their Amount. Besides the Board have an entire Confidence in the Commanding Officers that no Duties will be levied but such as are necessary for the general Regulation of the Prices of the Provisions and for defraying the Expence of their Cutwally Establishments.

3dly That no Military Guards be sent out for the purpose of seizing Provisions or Merchandize or permitted to impede in any manner directly or indirectly the free progress or Passage of any Native Merchant or Dealer thro any part of the Dominions of the Nawab of Oude

4thly That no Officer under the Commanding Officer be allowed the Privilege of issuing a Perwanna for Provisions unless such Officer be employed on Detachment and receive the Authority of his Commanding Officer for this purpose

5thly That every Officer issuing Perwannas for Provisions &c. to be careful to receive back such Perwannas on the Return of the Persons to Camp to whom they were delivered and if the whole Quantity specified in each be not brought in at one time, new Perwannas are to be given for the Remainder

6thly That all Officers do keep a Register of all Perwannas granted by them respectively that no improper use may be made of them or if detected that the Persons to whom they were delivered may be identified and punished.

Any disobedience in any Officer to the Rules here laid down will on Proof thereof be considered as disobedience of Orders and treated accordingly

12. The Office of Auditor General of the Accounts of the Troops serving beyond the Provinces has been abolished, and these Accounts are

in future to be audited by the Commissary General in the same manner as before the appointment of Auditor General beyond the Caramanassa took place. Mr. Scawen, who held this office, is admitted to the Station of Deputy Commissary General in Obedience to the Orders of your Hon'ble Court of the 17th of May 1780, and in the room of Mr William Atkinson who has resigned

13. We have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Governor General has received a Letter from the Vizier expressing his Gratitude for our Interference in his Behalf, and for the Relief which we have thus afforded him, which we trust will enable his Excellency to discharge with punctuality the Claims which we have upon him on Account of the Troops stationed for the Defence of his Country

14 A question having been stated to us by Major Palmer at what period the Reductions we had ordered should take place, we acquainted
 Cons 28th June him in reply that as the former Allowances were not authorized by us and as we had no Knowledge of them till they were stated to us by himself, we could not interfere in the subject, but left it to the Nawaub to do as he might think proper

15 The next object which attracted our attention was the Establishment of the Supreme Court of Judicature and the Allowances paid to the Law Officers of the Company In regard to the former, we have already acquainted you that we had made an Application to his Majesty's Judges on the subject In their reply which is recorded in the Proceedings
 Cons 12th May noted in the Margin, they acquainted Us that while the distinct Jurisdiction *Civil*, *Admualty* and *Ecclesiastical* established by Act of Parliament should continue, and while the Civil Jurisdiction should be divided into a Court of Law and a Court of Equity, no convenient alteration could be suggested in Regard to the number of Officers which the several Jurisdictions made necessary, and as to the value of their Places they believed that the salaries of the highest Officers in the Court afforded but a decent Maintenance for Persons in their Station They stated also that a doubt has arisen amongst them regarding their legal power either to reduce the Number of their Ministerial Officers, or to diminish their appointed salaries, and added that it was certain that neither could be lessened by any Act of the East India Company alone, nor consequently by any Act of Ours

16 Conceiving that the Salaries paid to your Law Officers might admit of some diminution, we resolved on the Reduction of those granted to the Company's Senior Council in lieu of Retainers &ca to the Sum of C. Rs. 2,832 8 Per Month, being the same as is paid by your Orders to the Advocate General, and of those to your Junior Council to the Sum of C. Rs. 2,000 Per Month To obviate however any possible Apprehension that this Reduction has taken place from any neglect of your Standing Council in the Performance of the Duties of their Respective Offices, We are happy to bear the fullest Testimony to their ability and Merits, and to declare our Highest approbation of their Zeal, and in most instances successfull

Zeal for the Promotion of your Interests.

17 The additional Salary granted to Mr William Chambers on the 2d November 1780 has been reduced to C Rs 1 500 Per Mth and as we were of opinion that it would be for your advantage to fix the Disbursements of your Attorney at a certain monthly salary, we have agreed to allow him C Rs. 2 832 8 in lieu of all Fees Thirds and all other Emoluments of Office and every other Expence whatever to the Company in all Departments of the Service being the same as the reduced Amount of the Salary paid to the Company's Senior Council He is permitted to charge Contractors and other Persons entering into Engagements with the Company with the whole Expence of Drawing Contracts Grants and other Engagements half of which has hitherto been paid by the Company and He is to be reimbursed in ready Money all such sums as he may be actually obliged to pay for the Company an account of which is to be delivered in from time to time upon Oath

18 The Establishment of the Corps of Calcutta Militia came next under our Consideration, and altho we did not think it advisable to abolish the Corps entirely We resolved on the Reduction of the Office of Adjutant and on the Diminution of the Establishment of the regulating Office of the Corps to the sum of 1,000 Rs. Per Mensem the particulars Cons 13th May of which will appear in the Consultation noted in the Margin. The Regulating Officer is permitted to draw only for the Cloathing of the non Commissioned Officers of the Militia, excepting when the Corps is embodied.

19 We have resolved on the Abolition of the Office of Fort Adjutant at Buxar and ordered that the Duties of Secretary and Aid de Camp to the Commandant of Fort William, shall be performed by one Person instead of Two with the Staff allowance now drawn by the Aid de Camp of 410 Rupees Per Mensem

20 Several applications had been made to Us by Officers who were employed on Survey and who were affected by our Resolutions of the 8th of March last, which directed That all Surveyors should be recalled from the last day of that month that their allowances should cease from that period and that none should be employed on this Duty in future but by our Special Orders for a continuance of their allowances till the Duties on which they were employed should be completed but these have been rejected except in one or two Instances, where the Utility and necessity of their Occupations rendered a Deviation from the general Rule advisable.

21 In consideration of the Labor which must attend the Prosecution of the work in which Capt Call your Surveyor General is engaged in preparing a general Map of India which is already in a very advanced State We have been induced to continue to him the sum of 601 Rupees Per Month exclusive of his Pay and Batta as Captain of Engineers and the House Rent of his Rank in the Service in lieu of all Contingent Charges and every Expence whatever being the amount which has heretofore been annexed to the Office of Surveyor General.

22 Lieutenant James Parlbby being employed in constructing a Factory House for the use of your Commercial Department at Pattahant in the vicinity of Luckipore, and the President and Members of the Board of Trade having represented to Us the necessity of his continuing to superintend the Building to its completion, we agreed to permit him to remain on this Duty till the 15th of this month, after which period we understood there would be no further occasion for his Services there, and we allowed him to draw a Salary of 500 Sonat Rs while employed upon this Duty

23 We also resolved that Major Mestayer, the Officer in Command of the Garrison of Budge Budge, should be permitted to draw such Table Allowance as should be fixed hereafter for a Major on Command, in lieu of the Salary, which has been heretofore granted to him under the Denomination of Surveyor's Allowance

24 The Office of Pay Master of the Works has been abolished, and the Civil Paymaster is in future to perform such Duties of it as relate to the Expence of the Civil Department, and those Issues of Cash which are required for Military purposes are to be made by the Military Paymaster General

25. A Statement having been prepared by your Accountant General in Obedience to our Order of the 4th of January last of all sums charged to the Company both in Calcutta and in the Mofussil on account of House Rent, and the Repairs of Houses, the same is recorded in our Proceedings of the 13th May, and having been taken into our consideration on the 27th of June last, the following Reductions were ordered of those sums which are paid on this account from the Military Department

26. No House rent is in future to be allowed, except that especially granted by your Orders Vizt

To a Field Officer having no Quarters Per Mensem Sonat Rs.	120
To a Captain Do	90
To a Subaltern Do	60

27 The Staff of the Governor General and Commander in Chief are to draw the House Rent of Captains in the Service

28 The Commissary General, Adjutant General, Quarter Master General and Chaplain to the Garrison of Fort William, are to draw the House rent allotted to Field Officers, having no Quarters

29 The Military Paymaster General, the Paymaster General beyond the provinces, the Governor General's Persian Interpreter, the Commandant and officers of the Governor General's Troops, the Commandant of Invalids, the Regulating Officer of the Calcutta Militia, the Aid de Camp to the second Member of Council, the several Paymasters of the Army who are now entitled to House Rent, the Brevet Ensigns, and Deputy Commissaries of Ordnance holding Commissions, the Surveyor General, the Officers attached to the Garrison of Chunar not having Quarters, and the Officers of the Regiment of Chittagong, are to receive only the House Rent annexed to their several Ranks in the Service, and the House Rent drawn by the following Officers has been struck off. The Commanding Officer at Berhampore, The Agent

for the Provision of Military Stores Conductors of Ordnance The Judge Advocate General Accountant in the Military Pay Master General's Department and the Assistants in the Military Pay Master General's Commissary General's Adjutant General's, and Fort Major's Office

30 The late House Rent to the Surgeon General Surgeons Major, and all Surgeons either within or without the Provinces has been reduced as follows. The Surgeon General is to receive only the House Rent allotted to Field Officers who have no Quarters Vizt. 120 Rupees Per Mensem and the Surgeons Major and Surgeons the amount assigned to their Military Rank, when no Quarters are allotted to them

31 The Business of the Ordnance Department is to be conducted in future in Fort William, where Quarters are to be provided for the Secretary, or in lieu of this Arrangement he is to be allotted to draw the House Rent allotted to Officers of his Rank in the Service When the Board assemble they are to meet in the House of the Commander of Fort William

32 The Rent of the House Chunpore engaged for the Use of the Surgeons attached to the Berhampore Station has been ordered to cease and in consequence of a Representation from the Commanding Officer Orders have been given for erecting a proper Bungalow for the Accommodation of these Gentlemen.

33 The Military Pay Master General and Commissary General having prepared a complete list of the Commissioned Officers Surgeons, Cadets Civil Servants and others receiving pay from the Company in the Military Department as it stood on the first of February last with the totals of the Monthly established Pay Batta and Allowances of every Individual we have the honor to transmit a Copy of the same for your Information a number in the Packet by the ship now under Dispatch By this it appears that the aggregate Expence of the Commissioned Officers Surgeons and Staff of the Army then amounted to no less than 6 60 186 Current Rupees Per Mensem or 80,30 232 Per Annum exclusive of the Revenue Money to the Provincial Commander in Chief and Field Officers amounting on an average to about 1,23 715 Per Annum making both together C. Rs 81 56 917 Per Annum without including £ 16 000 established for the Commander in Chief in India.

34 The Military Pay Master General and the Commissary General were induced by a View of the very burthensome Charge upon our Resources to suggest to us the propriety of dispensing with the Oath prescribed to Officers returning on leave of Absence for a few years on full or half Pay as they imagined that many Officers whose circumstances did not require this Aid might possibly avail themselves of the Proposition if it should be adopted by which the Company would be gainers as they are now subjected to the full Allowance of Officers who would then cost the Company less than one fourth of the Expence which they occasion at Present. This Proposition will have our Consideration hereafter when we shall also communicate to you such further Arrangements as we may find it necessary to adopt for the Regulation of the Expence of the Military Department.

35. At the same time that much of our Attention has been taken up with the objects mentioned in the former part of this Address, we have also made a very considerable progress in the Diminution of the Expences of your Civil Department, which according to an Account prepared for our Use by the Accountant General, Copy of which attends you a number in the Packet, amounts on the first of February last to the Annual Sum of Current Rupees 61,63,595-15-. including the Allowances of those Civil Servants who are paid from the Military Department which are also contained in the Account mentioned in the former part of this Letter to have been prepared by the Military Pay Master General and Commissary General

36 Several reductions which have taken place since the period to which the preceding account refers have been already communicated to you, and we shall now proceed to State those which have been ordered since the date of our last dispatches

37 The net Salary and allowances of the President of the Committee of Revenue have been reduced to 55,000 Rs Per Annum and those of each Member to 15,000 Rupees Per Annum, but should there
 Cons 27 June be any general encrease in the Net Collections of the next years respectively beyond the average amount of the Net Collections of the last four years, we have agreed that a Commission shall be granted to them and the established Collectors of the Revenue in addition to their Salaries to be divided by us at the end of the year in such proportions as we may think proper to determine, upon this principle that the whole receipts of the President of the Committee of Revenue shall not exceed 60,000 Rupees, and of each Member 50,000 Rs Per Annum and of each of the Collectors 3,000 Rs Per Mensom.

38 Should there be no great encrease in the Net Collections of the next year we do not mean to grant any addition to the reduced allowances of the President and Members of the Committee of Revenue, or to those now drawn by the Collectors, but an encrease in the Net Collections made at the Huzoory beyond the average of such Collections for the last three years, and an encrease in the Net Collections of any particular Collector derived from Rusroom [*sic*] (i e any encrease of Revenue arising from any voluntary Offers of the Zemindars) or otherwise will entitle the President and Members of the Committee of Revenue and the particular Collector to an encrease of allowances in such liberal Proportions as we may determine at the end of each year

39 Whilst the present Accountant General to the Revenue Department acts as Sub Treasurer, the old Allowance drawn for the former Office is to be drawn by the Gentleman appointed under him in the Treasury, and, when he retires from Service, his seat in the Committee of Revenue is not to be filled up The Allowance to the Sub Treasurer is to be at the rate of 25,000 Rupees Per Annum, and his successor as Accountant General to the Revenue Department is to become entitled to an Allowance equal to 30,000 Rupees Per Annum By this arrangement two of

your Servants will be employed in two different Offices of great trust and importance and at less expence than ynu now pay for one.

40 The Office of Preparer of Reports to the Revenue Department being an Office of great trust and various employment we agreed to fix the allowances annexed to it at 45 000 Rupees Per Annum which will be a saving from his late allowances of 25 448 Rupees. Of this however it is probable that 11,280 Rupees will be paid to him by the Zemindars for his Fee on Aumilnamas &c. but should his actual receipts on this account fall short of this Sum the difference is to be made up to him at the end of the year until which time he is to be paid upon the Monthly average of the remainder of Rupees 45 000 Per Annum. The Accountant General who lately Received 64 400 Rupees Per Annum is to draw the same allowances as the Preparer of Reports and Accountant General are to have the same share of the increase on the Collections as a member of the Committee of Revenue

41 The allowances of the Comptroller of the Salt Department and Salt agents have been reduced to a level with those of the President and Members of the Committee of Revenue and are to be increased in the same manner and upon the same Principles on any addition that is effected from year to year upon the average of the Salt Collections for the last three years. The Agents are to draw Monthly the Sums which they have stated severally to the Accountant General as actually disbursed by them for Sircars and other Servants but in their Bills for these they are to declare that the sums which are drawn have been actually disbursed by them for the purposes for which they were drawn

42 The President of the Department of Customs is to receive 50 000 Rupees Per Annum and a proportionate increase similar to that suggested for the Committee of Revenue and Salt Agents

43 The Collectors of Government Customs are to continue to draw their present Allowances but on condition that they be put at the end of the year on the same footing with the Collectors and Revenue Chiefs so that their Fees which they are to state upon Oath and their allowances together with their share of the increase in the Collections may not amount to more than 3 000 Rupees Per Menssem.

44 If the Offices of Secretary to the Public and Secret Departments could again be united in one Person we are of Opinion both on account of the great labour and responsibility annexed thereto that the Allowance of the Secretary should be increased to 45 000 Rupees Per Annum and Fees and in the mean time and until such Arrangements shall take Place we have agreed on a reconsideration of the subject that the salaries of the three Secretaries to the Secret Public and Revenue Departments shall be made up to 45 000 Rupees Per Annum including Fees which are to be accounted for upon Oath at the end of the year This apparent increase will be no actual Increase of your Expenses as the Fees received by the Secretary in the Revenue Department will probably amount to the difference between what was allowed to your Secretaries before and what is given to them now

45. The Committee of Accounts has been abolished but we have ordered the President to continue in charge of the Department with his present Allowance until further Orders and to bring up the Arrears of the Committee's Business until the 1st of July, aided by the Secretary, who has been directed to retain his Assistants who are Servants of the Company, but to discharge all his Monthly Writers.

46. In consequence of the abolition of the Committee the following regulations have been formed for the Audit of all Public Accounts.

1st All the monthly accounts and Establishments in the Civil Department including those of the Mainne Pay Master and Naval Store Keeper of the Resident at Benares and of the Accountant at Lucknow, together with the Monthly accounts of the General Treasury are to be audited by the Accountant General

2ndly The monthly accounts on the Establishment in the Department of Revenue to be Audited by the Accountant General of the Revenue Department

3rdly All Military charges to be audited as heretofore but with the exception of contingencies as herein after ordered by the Commissary General.

4thly These Officers are severally to take an Oath that they will audit all accounts without fear, favor or affection

5thly The Accountant General, the Accountant General of the Revenue Department, and the Commissary General are to pass all charges which correspond with the fixed Establishments, all petty Office charges not exceeding 100 Rupees Per Month, and all disbursements specially allowed But all Military charges of a contingent nature not generally or specially provided for are to be sent in the first Instance at the beginning of each month to the Paymaster General's Office thro' the Paymasters of Brigades and Corps accompanied by the necessary informations from the officers who have incurred such charges, and they are to be transmitted from the Pay Master General's Office to the Governor General and Council for their sanction to them without which they are not to be paid All Civil demands of a contingent nature not generally or specially provided for are to be sent in the first instance to the Council General with proper information for obtaining their sanction (according to the 9th Article of the general regulations of the 27th June) without which they are not to be paid

6thly The Heads of such Civil Officers as draw money upon Estimate shall invariably before the first Monday of every month send in to the Accountant General an Estimate of the sums required by them in the current month accompanied with a Statement of the Balance in their hands or the Balance due to them from which the Accountant General shall prepare and lay before the Board on the first Monday of every month an account of the orders to be granted on the general Treasury for these disbursements observing to draw orders in even Sums

7thly The Heads of these Offices are positively ordered to send

in their Monthly Accounts with the Vouchers (which will be returned when the accounts are audited) to the Accountant General as early in the succeeding month as possible, and if they should not do it before the expiration of that month the Accountant General is hereby prohibited from issuing any further orders on the Treasury to them until they shall comply with this regulation every neglect of which he is to report to the Board.

8thly The Military Paymaster General is to accompany his applications to the Board for Orders on the Treasury to answer the demands on his Office with his Cash account for the preceeding Month and the Vouchers. The Accountant General is to check these with each other and to report upon the same to the Board.

47 The Allowances to the Civil Paymaster General have been fixed at Sa Rs. 30 000 per Annum, and he is not to draw in future any Commission upon his disbursements.

48 The Office of Compiler of Standing Orders has been abolished and the Salary and Establishment of the Superintendent of the Press annulled and the Superintendent is to be paid in future at the established Rates for the Business which he executes for the Company

49 The allowances which were originally granted to the Members of Provincial Councils when the Councils were reduced and the Allowances since granted to Servants whose Offices have been abolished or who were out of any Employ have lately been claimed as a right and amounted to a very considerable sum. These exceeding some established salaries for Offices of Labour Inducements were afforded to the Company's Servants to avoid employments and some servants had resigned Offices of much trouble and little advantage with the view of retiring on the Allowance For these Reasons we have resolved that they shall be reformed to the following amount

For a Senior Merchant not married P Month	800
Do Married	1 000
For a Junior Merchant not married	600
Do Married	800
For a Factor not married and Quarters	300
Do Married and Quarters	500

and it is understood that Gentlemen holding these pensions may be employed on Commissions of Temporary Service with such additional allowances as we may choose to grant

50 We have also resolved on the following regulations in regard to the House Rent paid from the Civil Department founded on the Statement prepared by the Accountant General and recorded on our Proceedings of the 3rd May

51 That no Civil Servant who now draws House or Office Rent do henceforth draw more on either of these Accounts than the Sum allowed by your Orders to a Field Officer Vizi 120 Rupees P Month if such servant be above the rank of Factor except the difference between Sixty Rupees and Sixtyas the Military Establishment having been usually paid in

Sonat Rupees and the Civil in Siccas. Factors or Writers who now draw House or Office Rent are henceforth to be allowed only 90 Sicca Rs Per Month.

52. The Lease of the House lately occupied by the Governor General's Family having expired on the 1st of July another House has been taken for their accomodation at the reduced Rent of Current Rupees 586-4-10 P. Month

53. The Rent paid for the office of the Persian Translator has ceased and an Apartment has been ordered to be provided for him in the Council House

54. The rent paid for the Stationary Godown has also been ordered to cease and the Stationary is to be kept in the Council House.

55. The Office rent allowed to the Postmaster General has also ceased and the Post Office is in future to be kept in the Quarters hitherto occupied by the Adjutant of the Militia whose Office has been reduced.

56 The House rent granted to the following Officers of Government has been struck off Sub Accountant General, Civil Pay Master, Collector of the Town of Calcutta, Assistant Secy to the Committee of Revenue, Sub Secy to Do., Deputy Custom Master, Collector of Government Customs, Assistant to the President of the Depat. of Customs and the Rent paid for the Treasury Godowns at Dacca, Hooghly and Chittagong, and the Charge for the Cutcherry at Dacca have been abolished

57. The Resident at Benares, the Accountant General to the Revenue Department, the Keeper of the Aumeeny Cutcherry, and the Chiefs of Moorshedabad, Dacca and Patna, The Collectors of Tipperah, Midnapore, Jellasure, Rajeshahee, Rungpore, Ramgur, Sircar Sarun, Boglepore, Sircar Tirhut, Sircar Rotas, and Silberries the Superintendant of the Press, and of the Mazooly and Bazee Zemeen Dufters, the Superintendants of the Collections of Futty Sing, Purnea, 24 Purgunnahs and Patna, the Collectors of Government Customs at Hooghly, Moorshedabad, Patna, and Dacca, and the Comptroller of the Salt Department are to receive only the House Rent of their Ranks in the Service.

58 The lease of the House now occupied by the Secretary to the Secret Department will expire on the 1st of December next, when the Expencc will terminate agreeably to our Orders of the 8th of March

59 The Office Rent to the Committee of Revenue is reduced to 600 Rupees, and that for the Khalsa Cutcherry to Rupees 350 P Mensen

60 The Jail rent of the Adawlet at Burdwan and the Cutcherry rent of Rajeshahee have been reduced to 100 Rupees P Month unless they are the property of the Company and in that Event they are to cease totally

61 The actual hire paid for the Opium Godown proved by the Receipt of the Owner of it, is to be allowed and no more and the Superintendant is to draw the House rent of his rank in the Service

62 The allowance for Office rent granted to the Marine Pay master has been also reduced to the amount granted to a Field Officer who has no Quarters.

63 These and such other reductions as we can order consistently with Public Safety we are aware will be found infinitely short of your wishes and expectations and yet they will prove infinitely distressing to your Servants. The high Price to which every article of British Manufacture necessary to the use of British Subjects in these Provinces has gradually risen during the late War renders it impossible for them to subsist on the former Allowances of the Service and the Regulations in the late Act of Parliament preclude many of them from the Benefit of those customary advantages and Perquisites of Office which they before enjoyed

64 Placed as your Servants are in so distressing a situation it cannot but meet your indulgent consideration and we doubt not you will have in mind that if their Salaries and established Allowances in India amount collectively to a great sum a large Portion of that sum is paid back to Great Britain in the Demands for her Manufactures in this distant Colony

65 We trust that in judging of our Success in effecting Retrenchments it is not to the total Sum that the expences have been reduced that you will advert but to the total sum at which those Expences stood when the Retrenchments were begun and the Saving that has been effected. It is no easy or unimportant service to Stop the Career of general Expence. It is even meritorious to make it in any degree retrograde

66 When the former Administration upon Principles equally liberal and just connected the rewards of Office in the management of the different Branches of the Public Revenue with the Progressive increase of the Funds arising from them by an Established per Centage upon the whole it does not appear to have been adverted to that Servants of equal merit and standing and holding Offices of more Labor than those in the revenue Line could not easily be satisfied with inferior Allowances. Hence it followed that the Allowances of the Members of the Committee of Revenue of the Board of Customs and of the Salt Agents began to be considered as a standard by which the Servants in general estimated the Salary that became the right of high Trust and employment. These Allowances upon the increase of the Revenue amounted on a Medium to about 1,50,000 Rs. a year to each Individual a Sum which formed no inconsiderable Division of the Net Amount of your whole Income

67 It is now almost impossible to remedy this Evil effectually upon the Spot and when it is considered at home we sincerely hope that the liberal principle which still animates your Servants in this Country may not be injured by too severe a Reform. Human Nature is the same among all Nations and in all Places and it deserves to be considered whether too rigid a reduction of the Ostensible rewards of Labour in this remote and Unhealthy Country may not introduce Evils in our System greater than those that are to be Corrected.

68 Messrs Croftes Petrie Larkins and Harding having with much diligence ability and Zeal prepared and Selected a body of Regulations

for the Civil Establishment in Obedience to our Orders of the 8th of March last these were laid before us by the Governor General on the 27th of June accompanied by a minute from him acquainting us that he had revised them with care and fully recommended the Adoption of them

Cons 27 June They have accordingly received our Sanction in every Instance except in that which directs "that no Civil Servant of the Company shall be permitted to draw the Allowances and Salaries of more than one Office when these are Covenanted Servants without Office or Salary yet willing to be employed and capable of discharging the Duties of any Supernumerary Office" which involving difficulties that we could not have foreseen remain for our future consideration, and will receive our early determination The Principle we are determined to adhere to

69. The other regulations recommended by Messrs Croftes, Petrie, Larkins and Harding have been made Public among your Servants, and declared to be standing orders of Government, they are as follow .

1st No Civil Servant appointed to this Presidency shall be allowed to draw any Pay or Allowances annexed to his Rank until the day on which he reports his arrival (in writing) to the Secretary of the Public Department which report the Secretary shall countersign and forward to the Civil Pay Master

2nd The Pay and Allowances of every Person resigning the Service of the Company shall cease on the day of the date of his resignation or on the day of his embarkation which ever shall first happen.

3d When any Person retires to Europe on leave of absence with half the Allowance of his Rank the full Allowance shall cease from the day of his embarkation, and shall commence (When he returns) on the day of his reporting his arrival to the Secretary of the Public Department

4th All Allowances drawn from the Civil Pay Master's Office shall in the Bills made out be reduced to Sa Rs. and even Sums, that is to say if the fraction is under eight Annas it shall not be inserted if above Eight Annas it shall be stated at one Rupee No Salary or Allowance to be considered as due till the first day of the Month succeeding that for which it is drawn.

5th. The Offices held by and the established allowance granted to the Civil Servants above the Rank of Writers to be considered as a full compensation, and in lieu of all other Allowances in consequence of which the Old Allowances of Salary, Diet money, Palankeen hire, Family Allowance, and House Rent are abolished, and are to cease from the 1st day of August next being the first stated Period of drawing for them

6th. Writers on this Establishment are in lieu of these Old Allowances to draw 100 Sa Rs Per Month, and to have Quarters in the New Buildings (two to each house) till they shall have been appointed to an Office the Salary of which exclusive of the established Allowance exceeds 300 Rs Month when their right to Quarters shall cease This Allowance of 100 Rs is to be drawn in the Office Bill in which the Writer serves, by

the Head of that Office.

7th The Head of every Office under this Government shall draw the whole Allowances Establishment and other expences of his Office in one ruled abstract every month (according to the form annexed to the Duties of each office) and shall be answerable for the regular disbursement of the whole. To the Office Pay of each Covenanted Writer serving in His Office he shall add 100 Rupees Per Month as stated in Rule No 6 and regularly mark every change occasioned by Death removal, or any other Cause

8 All demands upon this Government whether for Salary or any other purpose must be made within one Month after they become due on forfeiture of 10 P Cent of the whole demand to be stopt from the Person authorized to receive it and if not made within three Months after it is due the whole Sum to be forfeited to Government. This Order to be in force from and after the 1st day of August next

9 Every demand of a contingent Nature and not provided for in any of the fixed Establishments (except the Petty charges of Office not exceeding 100 Rs.) must be accompanied with a Special order from the Council before it is presented for Payment to any of the Pay Offices.

10 An invariable Establishment being now fixed for every Office under this Government no excuse will ever be admitted for drawing improper Bills or presenting unauthorized demands. Every Person attempting this shall forfeit the amount of the Sum so demanded for the first Offence and for the Second shall in addition thereto suffer such other punishment as the Board may think proper to inflict.

11 Every Paymaster disbursing any Sum not authorized by the Establishments of the different Offices or by proper authority shall be debited personally for the same in the Books of the Department to which his Office appertains

12 Every Head of an Office under this Government is to be answerable for the regular attendance of all the Servants under him and the Office hours are hereby declared to be from 9 O Clock to one in the forenoon and from 7 till 9 in the Evening from the 1st day of April to the 30th day of September and from 10 O Clock till 2 in the forenoon and 7 till 9 in the Evening from the 1st day of October to the 31st of March No Civil Servant under the Rank of Factor to be exempted from this Rule

13 The Secretary of each Department shall notify to the Paymaster every appointment made in his Department invariably specifying the day on which the Salary is to commence or to cease on any Office being abolished.

14 No Postage to be charged in future on Letters on the Service but the Head of every Office to sign his name on the outside of every Letter on the Public Business and any Person convicted of conveying Letters on their Private concerns under such Signature to be punished with the utmost Severity

15. All Bills for travelling to Residents, Collectors, Judges of Adawlets and their Assistants and Registers, and to Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons appointed to Revenue Stations or others not Military to be paid by the Civil Pay Master who is furnished with a regular Table formed by the Committee of Accounts and approved by the Board. These to be entered under the Head of Travelling Charges and to contain the whole expence incurred to the Company on this Account. An Abstract to be laid monthly before the Board.

All Bills of this Nature shall before payment be countersigned by the Secretary of the Department to which the Drawer belongs, certifying that he knows the Service has been performed And the Bill when presented shall be accompanied by the Original order of Council in consequence of which the Expence has been incurred.

16. All Bills belonging to the Department of Revenue to be discharged at the Khalsa Treasury All Bills respecting Shipping or Marine Affairs to be discharged by the Marine Pay Master and all other Bills not Military to be Discharged by the Civil Paymaster

17. "No Civil Servant shall be allowed to draw the Allowances and Salaries of more than one Office when there are Covenanted Servants without any Office or Salary yet willing to be employed and capable of discharging the Duties of any Supernumerary Office. This regulation not to preclude Servants from holding more than one Office at a time, there being Offices of which the respective Duties are intimately connected "

70 The Report delivered to the Governor General by the Gentlemen employed to revise the standing Orders of Government and to select from them such as Might be adapted to the present constitution of the Service to which we have already alluded, is recorded in our Proceedings of the 27th June, and contains a detailed account of all the Civil Offices under this Government with the duties allotted to such, and the Establishment of Servants necessary for conducting the Business of them To this we beg leave to call your attention and have only to remark in explanation of it that the amount of the appointment of each Individual must necessarily remain unascertained till we shall have completed the objects of our present investigation

71 We have not yet received from your Board of Trade any account of the reductions which have been made in their Department in consequence of the recommendation contained in our Letter to them of the 27th January last but we hope to be able to transmit to you a Statement of their amount by the next dispatch

72 The Charge incurred by the Establishment of Peons or Pikes allotted to the Service of the Commercial Department in lieu of the Sebundy sepoy which were heretofore placed under the Authority of the President and Members of the Board of Trade is Current Rupees 3,682-4-5 P Month and has been resolved on in consequence of their representation that it was the very lowest that could be fixed for performing the duties required and for preserving their Factories from the depredations of Decoits.

73. Immediately on the Receipt of the instructions contained in the 30th Paragraph of your General Letter of the 9th of December last which directed us to transmit regularly to your Hon ble Court Lists of all Offices Places of Emolument in the Civil and Military Establishments of the Company with the Salaries Pay and Emoluments belonging thereto we issued our Orders to the Accountant General Military Paymaster General and Commissary General to prepare the same and transmit them to us under their joint Signatures corrected to the 31st December on each Year

74. Statements nearly conformable to those now required were ordered to be prepared so long ago as the 17th of last February and are herewith transmitted Numbers in the Packet.

75. The Proper period to which these Lists should be prepared is the 30th April as our Annual Books are closed and Balanced to that Day but as a List prepared to that Period could not be in readiness to be transmitted to England in the Ships of the Season we have been under the necessity of fixing on the 31st December for the formation of it and shall not fail to transmit the same annually to your Hon ble Court that you may be enabled to lay it before Parliament in due Time.

76. We have the Honor to transmit Numbers in the Packet Statements of our Reductions in your Civil and Military Expences the former amounting to C. Rs 15,30 129-5* and the latter C Rs 18,57,3-8 3- Per Annum

This is a mit take the amt of the Civil and Military Reductions both to other amtg only to C Rs 45,30 124-5-

77. The following Accounts which have been prepared by your Accountant General are also transmitted to you by the Ship under Dispatch and will enable you to form a clear Judgement of the present situation of your Affairs under this Presidency Estimate of Probable Resources and Disbursements of the Bengal Government for the years 1780/81 Comparative Statement of the Actual with the estimated Receipts and Disbursements of the Bengal Government for the years 1780/81 General Account of the established Charges of the Bengal Government on the 1st February 1780

78. By an Account which is also transmitted to you herewith of the estimated Expence of the Bengal Army from the 1st May 1780 to the 30th April 1781 you will perceive that this amounts to the sum of Current Rupees One Core Eighty nine Lacks Twenty eight Thousand and Sixty two including the Estimate of the Paymaster of the Works and the Ordnance Department, the Agents for Military Stores and Gun Powder the Store keeper to the Garrison of Fort William the Contractor for Berham pore and Dinapore Cantonments Commission on the Revenue to Field Officers and the Military Secretary's Allowances.

79. Our Intention in effecting a Reduction in the Expence of the Military Department of your Service has been of late retarded by the

Indisposition of your Governor General but will shortly be resumed with the Additional Benefit that will be derived to us in the Execution of this Work from the Assistance and professional Knowledge of your Commander in Chief

80 We had the Honor to forward to you with our General Letter of 29th April a Plan which had been laid before us by your Governor General for the Liquidation of your Bonded Debts in India and we recommended it to your particular attention. Having again maturely considered this important Subject and been permitted to benefit by the Sentiments of your Commander in Chief, We are unanimously of Opinion that the Governor General's Plan merits your Adoption of it as being well calculated for the Relief of your Distresses. Copies of it will be immediately sent to your other Presidencies, that the Gentlemen in charge of your Affairs may pass their Opinions and Remarks on it and transmit the same to your Hon'ble Court

81 Some reform had been proposed in the Bullock and Gun Powder Agencies, and we were Doubtful whether it might not be advisable to Publish for Proposals for the Execution of these Duties by Contract but as these are materially connected with the Army, and as an apparent advantage gained by converting these Agencies into Contracts on lower Terms might in Reality be attended with a great Loss to the Company, the Commander in Chief has been requested to look over the Papers relative to the Agencies, and propose to us any Plans for conducting the Duties which may at once be favourable to Public Oeconomy and the Real good of the Service

82 Your Agent for the Manufacture of Gun Powder has laid before us an Account of the difference which has accrued in the Expence thereof since he took charge of the Business on the Plan adopted in June 1782 and the Expence that would have accrued had the Business been continued to be performed, as it was before that Period, by Contract The Savings in two Years and Eight Months amounts to no less than the Sum of 1,24,598

83 Mr Hay's Letter is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin It contains several observations on the Allowances Cons 26th May Stated by the Accountant General to have been received by him on the 1st of Feby last and it evinces that Mr Hay has not derived those Advantages from his Station which without the Explanation now before us we should have imagined him to have gained.

We have the honor to be,
Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
John Macpherson/Ro Sloper/
John Stables/Chas. Stuart.

Fort Wilham,
31st July 1785.

LETTER DATED 19 AUGUST 1785

Shah Alam's demand of tribute—treaty between Sindia and Sikhs—hostilities between Marathas and Tipu

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs

[1] We have the Honor to address you overland and to communicate the Substance of our Advices by your Ship Swallow which has lately sailed for England

[2] We received your General Letters bearing date the 6th and 10th December Your Commands will be punctually attended to Lieut General Sloper arrived here on the 22d July and took his Seat at the Board

[3] Our Reasons are before you for having withdrawn the Embassy from Shaw Allum's Court and recalled Major Browne. You have also been advised by different Opportunities of the Shaw's desire that a Minister on the Part of this Government should remain with him his Majesty's Demand of the Tribute from these Provinces and Sindia's Support of it, and of the Answer we made to both. So Extraordinary a Conduct from Mahajee Sindia led us to apprehend that his Intentions towards the Company and the Vizier were not of a friendly Nature and we had other important Reasons also for thinking so. We therefore instructed Mr Anderson to bring the Designs of the Marattas to as early a Proof as the Occasion would allow by a spirited Remonstrance to Sindia and a Requisition that he should disavow the Demand of Tribute for the Shaw being a Cypher in Sindia's hands the Claim was in fact not his Majesty's but Sindia's. In certain possible Events especially if Sindia should refuse to comply with our just Expectations We invested Mr Anderson with a discretionary Power to direct the Union of your Forces under Coll Bromhead and Coll Sir John Cumming and that they should take the most favorable Position for checking Sindia's Views and protecting the Vizier's Territories and we prepared for the worst. The Vizier appeared earnest to co-operate with us in the common Cause and the Shaw Zada was determined to abide by whatever we should direct him to do. But Mr Anderson in consequence of an Intimation given to him by the Governor General and before the Receipt of our Orders had anticipated their Effect by a firm and spirited line of Conduct which alarmed Mahajee Sindia for the Consequences of his Jurisdiction that I produced Letters as well from him as from Shaw Allum disavowing the Claim to the Tribute and engaging you to omit the Demand of it in future. Your Credit was thus re-established your Friendship with Mahajee Sindia re-established and a Warning given to him that we should not yield to his Power

improperly exercised, or to any Attempt that he should make hostile to your Interests or to those of the Nabob Vizier. Our Conduct will we trust be honored with your Approval. It has had many good Consequences in your Relation to the Country Powers

[4.] Sir John Cumming is returned to Futtu Ghurr. A Correspondence was said to have been held by that Officer with the Kolladar of Ally Ghur while your Troops were on the Frontier, which induced a Belief in Sindia that we intended the Defence of the Place against an Attack meditated against it by Sindia's Forces, but Mr Anderson removed these Apprehensions and Sindia was satisfied. The Treasures of the late Afrasaib Cawn are said to be deposited in Ally Ghur. The Fort has been actually besieged, and it is thought must soon surrender to Sindia's Army.

[5.] A Treaty has been concluded between Sindia and the Seiks, It stipulates that the latter shall not injure the Territories of the English or the Vizier. The Treaty therefore is rather favorable than unfavorable to the Company, but there is Reason to believe that it will not be lasting. The Seiks are aware of secret Designs in Sindia hostile to them, and it is thought will not adhere to it. They are earnestly disposed to an Alliance with you and the Nabob of Oude, and their Aid would be of much Use if events should ever occur that might prompt us to desire it.

[6.] The probability of a speedy Rupture between the Marattas and Tippoo Saib induced Sindia to inquire of Mr Anderson, whether, in this Event, we would lend our Aid to the Maratta Power, agreeably to what was said to be a Stipulation in the Treaty of Salbey. We denied the Stipulation because it did not exist, and our Treaty with Tippoo required that we should not assist the Enemies of that Nabob. The late Act of Parliament also precluded us from taking any Part in the Contest, and the Continuance was a necessary Relief to your Finances. Our Answer to Mr. Anderson was communicated with the Occasion of it to your Presidency of Fort St George and Bombay. Hostilities have since actually commenced between Tippoo and the Marattas, who have been defeated on the South Side of the Kistna with the loss of their Army opposed to Tippoo's Troops and consisting of 25,000 Men.

[7.] Mr Malet is arrived in Sindia's Camp. Sindia was jealous of his proceeding to Poona, Mr Malet is ordered to come to the Presidency, and to wait our Instructions for his future Guidance. Letters have been written by the King and Sindia to the Nabob of Surat and Baboo Shideo, revoking in full and explicit terms the Grant of the Moglay Share of the Revenues of the Purgunna of Oorpar, which Baboo Shidea in prejudice to the Right of the Nabob of Surat had before obtained from his Majesty.

[8.] Lieutt Coll Harpur is appointed the Governor General's Agent at the Court of Lucknow in the Room of Major Palmer, who is returning to Calcutta. An Arrangement is made for the Payment of the heavy Debt contracted at Lucknow and owing by the Company to the House of Gopaul

Doss. The Vizier's Debt amounted at the End of Jano to Rs. 25 81 910 9

[9] A Plan has been adopted for the Relief of the Nabob of Ferrockabad and his distressed Country and Mr Willes has returned to his Station to carry it into Execution.

[10] Mr Johnson your Resident at Hyderabad has repaired to the Presidency The Expence of his Deputation has therefore ceased

[11] Your Orders for the surrendering the Assignment of the Revenues of the Carnatick to the Nabob Waulah Jah have been received and an Agreement has been made by Your President and Council at Fort St George for the Payment of the Noboh's Riots. Land Security is granted by this Agreement for the due discharge of those Riots instead of that of Soucar but subject to our Approval Lord Macartney on receipt of your Orders by the Fox resigned the Government of Fort St George and came to Calcutta with Powers to represent to us the State of the Madras Presidency and the Consequences that might result from your Directions for surrendering the Assignment. After considering the Subject maturely and especially the just and wise political Principles on which your Orders were founded we resolved on a strict obedience to them and desired that they might be carried into Effect

[12] We have been unremittingly employed in reducing the Expence of your Government of Bengal The saving which we have
 Secret Depart- already effected in your Civil and Military Departments
 of Inspection amount to Rs 4,30,120 0 Per Annum. To this Sum may be justly added the Reduction effected in the Vizier's extraordinary Disbursements to your Servants in his Country and amounting to near twelve Lacks of Rupees Per Annum.

[13] A Plan delivered in by your Governor General for paying off the whole of your Bonded Debt in India is sent a Number in this Packet and we recommend it to your early Consideration

[14] Mr Dangux has been appointed Agent for the French Nation in Bengal and to receive the Cessions to be made in
 Foreign Depart- these Provinces according to the 13th Article of the definitive Treaty Mr Wilton was appointed your Commissary to act under our Orders in making the Restorations Chandernagore has been given up and the French have been allowed to take Possession of Ghzyetty but subject to the Claims on it They have made some other Requisitions which have not yet had our Decision on them but will soon

[15] Complaints having been received from Bombay against Copaul Jaw Sinha's Agent at Bruch for allowing the Dutch some Privileges of Trade in Contradiction to his Master's Agreement with us the Complaint was presented to Mahajee Sinha who has prohibited his Agent in the aforesaid Terms from allowing any European Nation to carry on Trade there except the English

[16] The Dutch have claimed a Supply of Opium and Salt Petre We have promised them some Opium but have not yet fixed the Quantity two Regiments are now here with Regiments on the Subject as well as

relative to the duties paid on their Trade Their Propositions will receive our earliest Consideration.

We have the honor to be ,

Honble Sirs,

Your faithful humble Servants,

John Macpherson/Ro Sloper/

John Stables/Chas Stuart.

Fort William,
19th August 1785.

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LETTER DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Retrenchment and reforms in civil and military establishments

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1 Your Snow Intelligence being now in readiness to proceed to England we have the Honor to transmit to you by this Conveyance Copies of our Advices by your Ship Swallow, which left Bengal at the beginning of last Month

2 Your Hon'ble Court was then fully informed of the Progress which we had made in the Regulation and Retrenchment of your Civil and Military Expences under this Government We have proceeded further in this necessary Work tho' a little impeded by the Indisposition of your Governor General, and the Necessity consequently imposed on him to remove occasionally from Calcutta

3 Our attention has been also taken up by the Claims which have been preferred to us by the French and Dutch, (as noticed in a separate address to your Hon'ble Court) and we have met with many delays in the difficulty to which the Officers of Government have been continually subjected in collecting Minute and complicated Statements and Accounts from the remotest Parts of Your Dominions, and adjusting them with that degree of accuracy which alone could enable us to correct the Abuses that ought to be objects of Reform, as well as to ascertain the savings that could be made in a permanent Plan of Reduction

4 You will observe in a Minute Delivered to Us by your Governor General, and recorded in our Proceedings of the 11th of March which were transmitted to you by your Ship Swallow that the Commissary General, and the Accountant General together with the Paymaster General, Civil Paymaster, the Accomptant to the Revenue Department, and the late Compiler of Standing Orders had been directed to revise the Standing Regulations in their different Offices of Check and Disbursement, and to

prepare a select abridgment of the same to be submitted to us for our final approbation. The rules prepared by the Committee who investigated the Orders in the Civil Department of your Service and the Descriptions which they laid before us of the Duties which appertaining to each Civil Office have been communicated to your Honble Court in our dispatches by the Swallow together with our resolutions on them. Our next object was to examine your Civil Establishments which notwithstanding our late Reductions amount in the Aggregate to a Sum which we conceive may be considerably retrenched and we shall proceed on this reform with all possible Dispatch. An Account of those Establishments as they stood on the 1st February 1785 and of the Reductions since made therein are sent in the Intelligence.

5 We have also the Honor to forward to you the Regulations that have been submitted to us by Your Military Paymaster General and Commissary General who formed the Committee for revising and abridging the Standing Orders in the Military Department of this Government. We should deem ourselves unjust to the Labor of these Gentlemen if at the same Time that we commended the Zeal which they have manifested for your Interests and that accurate Knowledge which they have proved themselves to possess of the different Branches of your Military Service we did not allow them also the Merit which belongs to them in enabling us to lay before You as clear a Code of Regulations and as exact a Compilation of Orders as could be arranged from this Government.

6 We have passed Resolutions on some Parts of the Military Regulations particularly those relative to the Pay Departments of the Army. These resolutions are to be published and to be carried into immediate effect. A Copy of the Regulations attends you a Number in the Packet with respect to the remainder of our Arrangements upon this Subject we propose that they should not be yet carried into Execution since we have Reason to believe that Your Honble Court has had it in contemplation to send us particular Orders relative to the Military Charges in Bengal and we should not wish to embarrass the Accomplishment of them by the Publication of any System which we were not perfectly sure would be found conformable to your own Regulations. These we understand are soon to be transmitted to us.

7 In considering the Section of Revenue Money as laid before us by the Military Paymaster General and Commissary General some Questions have occurred to us on which we beg leave to request the Decision of your Honble Court.

8 His Majesty's Officer serving in India having been put by Act of Parliament on a footing with the Officers of the Company relative to allowances. Col. General and Lt. Col. Lieutenant were allowed such Equivalents to the Shares of Command as corresponded with their Ranks in the Army. But as the Revenue Money is expressly limited to a specified number of the Company's Senior Field Officers of each Rank we think it proper to submit to your consideration whether this allowance should be

restricted to any particular number of the different Ranks of Field Officers of his Majesty's Troops who may be in future serving under this Presidency or be allowed them generally whatever their number may be It is proper to observe, while we are drawing your Attention to this subject, that Junior Officers of his Majesty's Army, Command, as the Law at present stands the Senior Officers of corresponding Ranks in the Company's service, altho' such Officers of his Majesty's may have only local Ranks when this happens, and it often is the case, the King's Officers are brought forward much earlier than those of the Company to the Benefit of the Commission on the Revenues We are informed that his Majesty does not allow any Addition of Pay in Consequence of Brevet Rank

9 A great deal of Trouble would be saved by fixing Equivalents to be paid annually to Field Officers in lieu of the Commission on the Revenues and we beg leave to propose the same for your Consideration, and that the equivalent may be calculated on a medium of the Net Collections for the last five Years

10. In the course of Military Reform, and with a View to embracing every branch of your Military Service, the Commander in Chief proposes to lay before us some regulations for the Corps of Cavalry, but as the Cavalry now employed under this Government consists only of two Rossalahs and the Governor General's Body Guard the Regulations that may be proposed for Cavalry will rather have a reference to any Augmentation that may be found necessary in this Part of your Military Establishment than to the Establishment as it exists at present

11. The Commander in Chief is now engaged in examining the Charges to which you are subjected in the Department of Ordnance, particularly the Expence of the Magazines and Camp Equipage and Military Stores and the other branches of Military Agency He is also revising the Establishment of native Artificers and Lascars, and will recommend to us such Reductions in these several charges as he may Judge practicable and necessary.

12. The Commander in Chief having considered the Plan that is now pursued in respect to the charge for, or in lieu of Budgerows and Boats for Officers proceeding upon Service up and down the Country has found the Expence large, but does not see any present necessity for an alteration of the System, observing that the Expence will in future be much reduced since he has determined upon permitting no supernumerary Officers to be Stationed beyond the Provinces, by which a saving of more than two Laacks Annually will arise, and on preventing as much as possible Removals of Officers from one Corps to another

13 We had the Honor of transmitting to you with our advices of the 31st July a List of the Commissioned Officers, Surgeons, Cadets, Civil Servants and others receiving Pay from the Company in the Military Department, as the same stood on the 1st of February last, We enclose a Number in this Packet an Account of the Expence of the Troops, Lascars, Artificers, Labourers, Bullock Drivers and all other Classes of Men

attached to the Bengal Army on the 1st Febr'y by which it will appear that the Expence of this Establishment was at that Period Curr. Rupees 5,17 653 13 P Mensem or Curr. Rs. 62 11 845 12 Per Annum. We believe that this is an Account similar to that which is required by the 40th Clause of the last Act of Parliament

14 Having taken into consideration the Number of Old Balances outstanding on the Pay Master General's Books, and being desirous to trace as far as possible from the Records and Vouchers in his office and from other authorities the Nature and Ground of the claims, which the Company appear to have against Individuals, We have appointed a Committee for this Purpose consisting of Mr William Pawson and Mr William Berrie two of your Servants who are not in any particular employ They will be assisted in their inquiries by the Military Paym Genl whose Assistants or Clerks will enable them to Act without any new Establishment.

15 We have directed that the result of the Committee's Investigations be reported to us that such recoverable Claims as may be proved may be realized and such claims as are irrecoverable or cannot be ascertained may be written off the Military Books so that the Books may exhibit a real and actual account of the Company's Debts and Credits.

16 A similar Resolution has been passed with respect to the Investigation of the outstanding Balances in the General Department the Committee appointed for this Purpose are Mr Mathew Dawson and Mr Ramsay Hannay

17 A Question having been submitted to us by the Commissary General in respect to Officers availing themselves of the leave of Absence to proceed to Europe we have resolved that such Officers do draw only the Pay of their respective Ranks and not the Gratuity and additional Allowance The Pay is to be drawn in Arrear up to the Dates of Certificates from Justices of the Peace in Great Britain that the Officers are alive which Certificates are to be produced with the Bills for Audit before Payment.

18 Our Advices from the Public Department in the Course of the present Season will acquaint you with the Names of the Officers who are permitted to avail themselves of the Leave of Absence and to proceed to Europe in this Year and you will in the end find the Permission that has been granted to them productive of relief in your Military Expences and founded upon solid Principles of Public Economy The Contingent Expences connected with the Service of Supernumerary Officers on this Establishment cannot be easily detailed or calculated.

19 We beg leave to refer you to our proceedings of the 21th Ultio for the perusal of various Letters addressed to us by the Army Agent and by Mr William Macintosh in respect to the provision and feeding of Draft and Carriage Hacks and the Equipping the Army

20 We have the Honor to refer you also to the same proceedings for a perusal of a Minute delivered in by the Commander in Chief in

which he proposes that the Service of Providing Draft and Carriage Bullocks for the Army should in future be executed by Contract. General Sloper was much influenced in this recommendation by a knowledge of your wishes, which have prescribed this Mode of performing the Duties now executed by the Army Agent.

21 We agreed to the Proposition of the Commander in Chief and an advertizement has been published requiring Sealed proposals to be delivered in on or before the 15th October by Persons willing to contract for this Service, but as the Service is of the first importance, and the due Performance of it indispensably necessary, we have concurred in Opinion with the General that we should reserve to ourselves the Power of agreeing to such Proposals as we may Deem most advantageous to the Company whether the same be, or be not the lowest Proposals, and we have published our Intentions accordingly.

22 A Representation having been made to us by the Surgeons at the Presidency of the Hardship which they suffered in Consequence of our Regulations for Reducing the Amount allowed before for House Rent, we considered of the Circumstances of that Hardship as they were stated to us, and as the House Rent fixed for the Surgeons had been Established by a special Resolution of the Board, and had not originated as an Abuse in the Service We agreed that in lieu thereof, the Surgeons at the Presidency should be permitted to draw an Extra allowance of S. Rs 200 Pr Mensem besides the House Rent established to their Military Rank in the Service

23 The Postmaster General having informed us that it would be utterly impracticable to have the Rooms in the Old Fort which we allotted for the General Post Office ready by the 1st August as we desired, and that the Rooms were occupied, we have agreed to the Continuance of the General Post Office for the present where it now is, and that the Post Master General should draw the Established Allowance of his Rank in the Company's Service as Office Rent untill the Rooms in the Old Fort shall be ready for a Post Office

24 We communicated to your President and Members of the Board of Trade the Resolutions which we passed on the 27th June for reducing the amount of House and Office Rent allowed to Servants of the Company under our immediate authority, and We recommend that similar Retrenchments should be made in the Commercial Department, the President and Members of the Board of Trade attended to this Recommendation, and a saving is produced by it in their Departments of Ct Rs 3,043 9 7.

25 With Respect to any other Reform in the Expences of their Department they acquainted us that their Establishments at the Presidency and Subordinates were already so moderate that considering the Ranks of the Servants employed under them and the Trust reposed in those Servants, and adhering to the Principle which we had ourselves laid down that altho' a Reduction of Expences should be made and extended as far as possible to every Department, a fair Recompense should be

nevertheless allowed for the Labors of individuals, they could but make few if any Retrenchments. They expressed a desire however to forward in as far as they could the grand and important Object of verifying the Estimates which your Honble Court had laid before the Parliament of Great Britain and nation at large by reducing in a low scale that Part of the Expences of their Constituents which had been entrusted to their Discretion, and they requested for their Guidance therein that we would furnish them with an Account of the Establishments Civil, and Revenue immediately under us, that they might reduce any of their similar Establishments to a like standard should they not be already below it

26 The Board of Trade advises us also that under an Impression of the Propriety of the Principle laid down by us that the Salaries of all Offices ought to be proportioned as nearly as possible to the Duties and Responsibility annexed to each they should in Justice to the Officers at the Presidency whose Duties were important and so laborious as to engross all their Time and unremitting Attention whose Rank in the Service was high and whose allowances were inadequate to their Support and to whom the allowance of House Rent formed a considerable Part of their whole Stipend be under the Necessity of making some further Compensation for the Labor and the Responsibility of their Offices more than they already received

27 We acquainted Your Board of Trade with our Opinion that some other Retrenchments might be yet effected in the Commercial Establishment and we particularly recommended that they should be brought in the lowest practicable Standard. We acquainted them also that we wished to leave the Execution of this Duty in their sole Management, and should be much concerned if any reasons should render it necessary for us to take it upon ourselves we at the same time informed them that it was by a proper attention in the Department they were charged with especially by Reductions in the Cost and Expences of the Investment that the Company's affairs and Credit would alone be retrieved Your Board of Trade have lately replied to this Letter Copies of our Correspondence on this and other very Important subjects wait upon you with these Dispatches.

28. As we wish not only to transmit to you a general Representation of our Progress in the Department of Inspection and Retrenchment but to draw your particular Attention to our Regulations of Reform we Subjoin to this address a Copy of our Late Resolutions upon this Subject.

East William
22d September 1755
(Per John Jones)

We Have the Honor to be Honble Sirs
Your most faithful humble Servants
John Macgherwin/Robt Sloper/
John Stables, Chas. Stuart.

LETTER DATED 25 OCTOBER 1785

[Foreign Department]

*Right to search foreign ships—French claim to free trade in salt—resti-
tution of territories to French and Dutch.*

TO the Hon'ble Court of Directors.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. The Dispatch of the Intelligence affords us an opportunity of transmitting to you a Continuation of our Proceedings in this Department from the 19th July, the Period to which they were last forwarded by your Ship Swallow. They are brought up to the 10th Instant and attend You with their Index

French

2. Our Address of the 31st July conveyed to You an Account of the Delivery of Chandernagore to Mr. Dangereux, the Agent appointed by His Most Christian Majesty to receive the Cessions to be made to France in these Provinces, and it recited such other Events as had occurred to the Date of it with Respect to the Execution of the 13th Article of the late Definitive Treaty.

3. We should have been well pleased to have had it in our Power to inform You that our Wish to give the speediest Operation to the Treaty in Bengal, and to concede to the Subjects of France every Object that it required from us, and every Aid in the Prosecution of their Commercial Views that could be properly desired, had been attended with those Consequences which might reasonably have been expected from such a Disposition in this Government, but neither this Disposition, nor the Management, and Exertions of our Commissary have produced those Compliances in the French Agent, nor at all Times that Decency of Deportment in his Correspondence with the Representatives of the British Nation, which our Example, and the Credit of his own Court might have induced him to make, and to observe

4 We transmit to You a Number in the Packet a Letter addressed to us by our Commissary, which contains a clear Detail of all that has passed between him and Mr Dangereux in Respect to the Execution of the 13th Article of the Definitive Treaty from the first Hour of their meeting to the present Time We refer to it for Particulars, which would otherwise be mentioned at Length in this Address, and we recommend it to Your Attention It shews the Claims made on one side, and the Answers to them on the other, and it carries with it a just Description of the Conduct

of this Government and that of Mr Dangereux We should not render to Mr Wilton that Justice which we think due to him if we did not take Notice of this punctual Obedience to our Orders and commend the Address with which he has endeavoured to facilitate the Accomplishment of our Wishes

5 You will observe from Mr Wilton's Narrative that no Difficulties have yet occurred nor do we think that any can be apprehended in Regard to the Restitution of *Places* The Usage of visiting French Ships as they pass the Fort of Budge Budge the Privileges of Trade and the Mode of ascertaining and realizing the Duties of the Country Government on that Trade have been the principal Points in Discussion between us, and the French Agent

6 These Points were for many Years before the late War and continued to be to the Period of its Commencement Matters of constant Dispute between the Gentlemen then in Charge of Your Affairs and Mr Chevallier the Commandant of Chandernagore In some Respects they were also Causes of Difference with the other Foreign Settlements in Bengal.

7 Aware of the Troubles which Disputes with Foreign Nations settled in these Provinces have occasioned in England not only to his Majesty's Ministers but to the Court of Directors, and sensible of the use that may be made of such Differences by any Power not pacifically disposed towards Great Britain, we wish to be furnished with such Rules for our Conduct towards the Foreign Settlement as shall serve for our invariable Guide in our Proceedings towards them.

8 The Right of visiting and examining Foreign Ships¹ as they pass the Fort of Budge Budge appears to us to be a Question of Political Tendency which requires the earliest Determination of our Superiors.

9 So long ago as in the Year 1773 Your Orders were positive against the Exercise of such a Right

10 You lamented the Want of Power to counteract and defeat by such Means any hostile Designs which might be secretly carrying on against the Company but You could not take upon yourselves to give Sanction to a Measure which was considered by his Majesty's Plenipotentiary as a Breach of Treaty and you therefore strictly enjoined Your President and Council to conform to what had been suggested by Admiral Harland but You at the same Time declared that they must not relax in the least from their Attention to the Security of Your Possessions or pass over any overt Act of the French or others which might indicate such hostile Intentions as might warrant other Measures (Vide General Letter to Ben^{al} 7th April 1773 Par 28)

11 It appears however that notwithstanding these Instructions a Bill was afterwards received of visiting and examining Foreign Ships We suppose that it was warranted by Necessity and we imagine that it may have appeared to Your Government of Ben^{al} as a Matter of little Moment whether the Ships were visited by Officers in Your Service or in that of the Country Government who had long been in the Use of making

strict Search of all Foreign Ships that came up the River, and of seizing all Arms, and Military Stores which they might be found to contain. We have heard that such Seizures were made both from the French and Danes, not only on the River, but within the Limits of their Settlements, and admitted as legal Captures.

12 In the year 1776 Resistance was made by the French to an Exertion of the Authority of this Government in ordering an Examination of the French Ships Four Men were wounded on Board a French Ship called the St Anne, and one of the wounded died. M Chevalier then Commandant of Chandernagore, remonstrated in passionate Language against the Conduct of Your Governor General and Council in warranting the Visitation of French Ships, and the Question was referred to the respective Courts in Europe

13 Your Governor General and Council in their General Letter of the 22d August 1776, which stated the Particulars of this Disagreement, declared to you that, they themselves entertained "no Doubt of Your Right to require an Account of any Ship passing Your Fortifications, that it was warranted by the usage of every well regulated Government, and never in Fact before that occasion had been disputed by any of the Foreign Companies" They observed that "Mr Chevalier did himself admit it even in his Remonstrance to be the Practise of European Nations, but founded his Claim to an Exemption from it on an absolute Freedom of Navigation in the Ganges, which he asserted to be entirely open to all Nations which had a Right to possess settlement on the Banks of it "

14 A Copy of the Board's Answer to Mr Chevalier was transmitted to You a Number in the Dispatch of the 22nd August 1776. Another Copy of it is sent in this Packet

15 Your Governor General and Council observed to you in those Advices that "the Security of the Government for which they were responsible made it their indispensable Duty to adhere to the Practise which they found established, and that it was their Determination to adhere to it until they should receive direct and positive Instructions from you to depart from it, and they conceived it their Duty to inform You of this that Your Commands might be speedy, and decisive, if You should think it necessary to prescribe any other Mode of Conduct "

16 Your Silence upon this Appeal has of course led us to imagine that the same Mode of Conduct was not to be relinquished, and we have therefore found ourselves obliged not to yield to the Objections lately made by the Agent of France to the future Observance of it, But your Orders of 1773, founded upon a positive Opinion of Admiral Sir Robert Harland, his Majesty's Plenipotentiary in India, and opposed to Your Silence upon a subsequent Reference of the Question to Your Decision, have placed us in such a state of Doubt, and Uncertainty, with Respect to the Right of visiting, and examining Foreign Ships passing up this River that, altho' we shall on no Account relinquish such Right without Your Authority, we shall be content on General Occasions with such an Observance of the Form

as ought not to give Offence to the Foreign Powers, until we shall be honored with Your Answers to the following Queries

17 Are the Governor General and Council of Fort William possessed or not possessed of a Right to visit and examine French or other Foreign Ships, not being Ships of War passing by any of the English Fortifications on the Banks of this River ?

18 If possessed of the Right are they to exercise the same and in what Manner, and to what Extent ?

19 If on examining the Ships they should be found to contain Arms, and Military Stores more than should be deemed necessary for the Use of such Ships are such Arms etc to be seized and confiscated or what is to be done with them ?

20 If the Governor General and Council should not possess the Right of visiting and examining Foreign Ships may the Right be exercised by the Officers of the Country Government, over whose Proceedings the Board are known to have a positive Controul and in what Manner and to what Extent ?

21 The Question relative to the Right was lately brought before us by a Refusal of two Ships to allow an Examination they were visited however and afterwards permitted to pass up the River

22. Mr Wilton's Letter transmitted to You a Number in this Packet will lay before You the Claims of the French Agent to a free Trade in Salt our Objections to allowing it and the Reasons on which those Objections were founded the Proposals afterwards made by Mr Dangereux for a restricted Trade in Salt, and the Conditions on which we have acceded to them.

The latter are as follow

1st That the Quantity of Coast Salt imported each Year do not exceed two Lacks of Maunds the Year to be reckoned from the 1st October to the 30th Sept^r following which will agree with the Computation that prevails in Bengal in Respect to the Salt Manufacture

and That the whole Salt be delivered at the Salt Office at a Price not exceeding Sicca Rupees 120 for 100 Maunds

3rd That the Importation do not commence before the 1st May next the this Delay is not intended to lessen the Quantity to be Imported in the whole Year

4th. That the French shall Import their Salt on Vessels navigated or commanded by Europeans and not on Donies

23 To these Conditions with a trivial Alteration in them Mr Dangereux has agreed under the Reserve of Orders from his Court and, by yielding, to a Loss comparatively unimportant we have thus relieved ourselves for the present from much Embarrassment on a Claim which admitted of very strong Argument in its Support but which could not be acceded to in full without a Sacrifice or very material Diminution of a considerable Part of

Consultation
27th September

Consultation
24th August &
10th October

Consultation
21st
Oct^r

the Revenue which You now derive from the exclusive Property of the Salt Trade in these Provinces

24 Our Proceedings noted in the Margin contain the several Reasons on which a Rejection of the Claim of France to a Trade in Salt might, we think, be maintained, and we have the Honor to transmit to You a number in this address Copies of some Questions that have been put to the Comptroller of the Salt Department, and of his Answers to them, by which you will obtain further Lights upon a Subject of essential Importance to Your Interest

25 With these Documents before You, we trust that it may be quickly in Your Power to favor us with Instructions that may serve as a Rule for our Conduct if the Representations of the French Government should, in Virtue of the 13th Article of the Definitive Treaty on which "His Britannich Majesty engages to take such Measures as shall be in his Power for securing to the Subjects of France a safe, free, and independent Trade such as was carried on by the French East India Company, whether they exercise it individually or united in a Company" insist on a free Trade in Coast Salt in any Quantities of it that Individuals may think proper to import

26 We shall dismiss this Subject by observing to you, that in a Declaration made to the late President of the Department of Customs by Prawnkissen Dutt, who is upwards of eighty five Year's of age, and was employed in the Buxbunder or Country Government Custom House, in the Capacity of Sherishtadar from 1715 to 1776, He remarks that Salt was one of the Articles which were generally held in Monopoly, and purchased by the Foreign Companies *as they could* from the Persons enjoying the exclusive Priviledge in like Manner as by private Merchants

27. The last material Object that came under our Consideration was to ascertain the necessary Regulations for the Buxbunder or Government Custom House. We referred the Question to the President of the Department of Customs The Result was communicated to the French, Dutch, and Danes The French were dissatisfied, and we took new Pains to discover what the ancient Regulations of the Buxbunder really were To meet, in as far as we thought that we properly could, meet the Sentiments of the French Agent, we corrected the Regulations which we had adopted, and passed others These were communicated to the Foreign Settlements as substituted in the Place of the former, but the French Agent is not yet content His Objections however are not very essential, and we hope that no further Difficulties will occur for the present on this Point We have the Honor to transmit to you the Regulations as they were first adopted, and those that were afterwards resolved on in their Room

28. In our General Letter of the 14th January last we declared ourselves desirous that no Part of our Conduct towards the Foreign Settlements in this Country should give just Cause of offence in Europe or

furnish Grounds for any Representation or Remonstrance that could in its Consequences affect the good Understanding which subsists between Great Britain and the neighbouring Powers or in any wise embarrass His Majesty's Councils or those of our immediate Superiors and we therefore requested that You would do us the Honor to acquaint us by the earliest Opportunity with your Sentiments and Orders in Respect to the Trade of Foreign Settlement

29 We presumed to suggest to You that two Considerations must direct Your View of this important Subject. First The Preservation of those Rights which are intimately connected with the Sovereign Controul of these Provinces. Secondly That general Freedom of Trade to all the European Powers trading to India which they may consider as their Right by Sunnud from the Sovereigns of the Country and which is intimately connected with the Prosperity of the Country itself by the Importation of Foreign Specie and the Benefits of an unmonopolized Commerce.

30 We are anxious for your Instructions we wish to see all Differences with the Foreign Settlement[s] at a Termination but it is not in our Power to effect it unless indeed we were to destroy the Source of them by laying open the Trade of Bengal Great Benefits would be also derived to the Country itself by such a Measure but it involves too many Considerations for us to attempt the Execution of it without Your Authority and absolute Necessity alone could force us to do so

31 The last Letter which we have received from the French Agent is the Terms of it nearly as disrespectful to this Government as that which he was some Time since pleased to withdraw

32 Being now brought to a Conviction that every Concession which we make to the Requisition of Mr Dangereux will not assure him of our Wish to receive Impediments to a punctual Observance of the Treaty, but operate only as an Encouragement to new and improper Claims we have resolved to bring the Subject between Us to a Close and for such Purpose we have this Day determined to write a Letter to Mr Dangereux Copy of which attends you a Number in the Packet This Letter has been prepared under a Supposition that it will be transmitted by the French Agent to his Court where we trust that our Conduct during the whole of the Negotiation with him will be attended to with more Candor [sic] than Mr Dangereux has thought proper to allow to the Consideration of it here

33 We have granted a Supply of 18 000 Maunds of Saltpetre to the French Agent for the present Year on Condition of his paying the Price for this Article which was usually paid by the French before the late War

34 It is not perhaps undeserving of Remark that our Differences with the French have been chiefly relative to Privileges that could be productive only of Benefit to Private Persons and that the Government of France is no farther concerned in those Privileges than as it may be inclined to support what it may generally deem its Rights and those the most trivial Rights and to assist the Circumstances of a few Individuals in Bengal.

35. Some French Sailors have deserted, and as it was supposed to
 Consultation 8th August Calcutta, from a French Frigate, named the Juliet, and
 laying off Chandernagore, and the French Agent having
 requested the Interposition of the Governor General that
 the Men might be given up, the Governor General acquainted Mr Dange-
 reux, in a Letter from the Board, that he would readily afford such aid as
 he could legally give to the Officer of the Juhetté who had been sent to
 Calcutta to recover the Men

36 Having often experienced the Evils that had occurred to Your
 Service, as well Military as Marine, from Desertions of Soldiers and
 Sailors to the Foreign Settlements near the River, and many Instances
 Consn 8th August having also occurred of Desertions to Calcutta from such
 Settlements, we were mutually interested in preventing the
 Inconveniences resulting from them, and in putting an End
 to the Complaints to which they often had given Rise, and we deemed this
 a proper Occasion to propose to Mr Dangereux that a Convention, and
 Agreement should be entered into by us, and him for the reciprocal Sur-
 render of all European and Native Soldiers and Sailors' deserting to, and
 from Calcutta, and to and from Chandernagore, and all other Factories and
 Places within our respective Jurisdictions, under the Condition of the im-
 mediate Pardon of such Deserters.

37 A similar Convention was proposed to the Dutch and Danes
 Consn 24 August the French and Danes immediately agreed to it, and the
 Consn 8 Sept'r Convention is ready for Execution, but the Dutch who
 had referred several Matters to the Government General of
 Batavia in Respect to their Affairs desired to postpone any Determination
 upon the Subject until such References should have been replied to

38 Mr. Dangereux, the French Agent at Chandernagore having de-
 Consn 24th August sired from us the Surrender of the Person of the Sieur
 Chevalier de la Bauve, which had been also formerly
 required of the President and Council at Fort St George,
 and afterwards of this Government by the Vicomte de Souillac, and Mr.
 Monneron at Pondicherry, we rested on the Opinion of the Judges with
 Respect to the Legality of such Surrender, and delivered the same Answer
 to Mr Dangereux on the Claim which he had preferred as we had sent to
 the Gentlemen at Pondicherry. This was communicated to You in our last
 Letter

39 The French Agent having presented a Complaint thro' our
 Consn 19th July Commissary against Major Buchanan when commanding
 the Detachment of Your Troops at Chandernagore, for not
 punishing what was deemed an Insult shewn by some of your Sepoys to
 an officer belonging to a French Frigate off that Place, we directed that
 the Circumstances should be immediately enquired into,
 Consn 19th July & 24th August and Major Buchanan ordered to reply to the Representa-
 tion The Representation, and Major Buchanan's Defence
 against it appear on our Proceedings. The Substance of the latter was

communicated to Mr Dangereux from whom no Answer has been received on the Subject and who we believe is in common with the Rest of the French at Chandernagore rather concerned that a Complaint was ever made which on further Inquiry was found to reflect on the Conduct of the French officer and not on Major Buehanan.

40 Chandernagore not having been restored to the French until the 27th of July and the People being in the greatest Distress, we permitted them to draw their usual Subsistence for that Month.

Consn.
30th August

41 Mr Collings is soon expected at the Presidency to attest a Number of vouchers relative to Payments made to the French. As soon as this shall have been done compleat Accounts of such Payments will be transmitted to you agreeably to Your Orders of 24th September 1783

42 The Commander in Chief has laid before us a Letter which he has received from Lord Sydney One of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State in which his Lordship mentions that Difficulties had arisen as appeared by a Letter from Lord Macartney the Governor of Fort St George in Regard to the Restitution of the Forts of Trincomalee and Ostenburg in Consequence of a material Difference between the Instructions which his Lordship had received from Your Honble Court and those which the Marquis de Bussy had received from France. Lord Sydney observes that the Delay in making the Restitution had originated in England* and refers

N.B. The word in the original is "here" to a Letter from Monsr de Vergannes to the Duke of Manchester the late Ambassador at Paris, which by Accident or Mistake had not been communicated to the Court of Directors the Letter showing that an Agreement had been made subsequent to the Ratification of the Preliminary Articles of Peace between his Majesty and the States General of the United Provinces with Respect to the Restitution of Trincomalee &c conformably to the Instructions which the Marquis de Bussy had received from his Court Lord Sydney announces his Majesty's Desire to avoid any further Delay in fulfilling the Engagement which had been made on his Part on this Occasion, and signifies his Majesty's Pleasure that the Commander in Chief should give every Assistance in his Power to the Company's Officers in carrying the same into immediate Execution

43 We are fortunate in having anticipated his Majesty's Wishes by the Propositions which we made to the Marquis de Bussy in November last and were acceded to by his Excellency's Successor at Pondicherry, and in having thus removed a principal Impediment to the Establishment of Peace in India before his Majesty's Commands to General Sloper were received.

Dutch

44 The Director and Council at Chinsura having sent a Deputation to the Government consisting of Messrs. Edbracht and Van Citters two

Consn 24th & 30th of August Gentlemen of then Council, the Deputation was received in our Council Chamber on the 19th of August and some of their Memorials delivered These and the Memorials that followed them are transmitted to You Numbers in this Dispatch together with a Copy of our Reply to them.

45 The Requisitions of the Gentlemen at Chinsura were various and our Answers to them full explicit we have only to observe, in Respect to the latter, that the Regulations therein mentioned for the Buxbunder, or Countiy Government Custom House, have been since revoked, and others substituted in their Room, and that the Commercial Resident at Maulda having transmitted to us an Answer to the last Complaint made against him at the Instance of the Dutch Gomastahs in that District, a Copy thereof is transmitted to You a Number in the Packet, with the other Papers to which it refers No Reply has been yet made to our Answer to the Memorials of the Dutch Deputies

Consn, 10th October

Consn 8th September

46. You will observe in that Answer that we have granted to the Dutch a Supply of crude Opium equal to 700 Chests, and 23,000 Maunds of Salt petre for the present Year.

47 A Complaint having been preferred to us by the Director and Council at Chinsurah against Ensign Morris, and other officers belonging to the Barrampore Station for an Insult shewn to Mr. Verspyck, the Chief of Caleapore, on the 11th July, Lieutenant Crawford Laird, and Ensign Morris were put under Arrest to be tried by a Court Martial Our Proceedings of the 24th August contain the Complaint, and the several Testimonies in Support of it The Gentlemen at Chinsura deemed the Offence so heinous that they were not satisfied with a Trial of it by Court Martial, and wished it to be punished by the Authority of this Government A specific Charge having been preferred against the Officers, and the Officers being actually in Arrest, we informed the Deputies from Chinsura that, according to the Rules of Your Military Service, it was necessary that they should undergo a Trial by Court Martial, that the Trial would be immediately ordered, and Mr Verspyck would have an Opportunity afforded him of Substantiating his Representations before a respectable Tribunal, and of producing such Evidence as he might think proper in Support of them, that this Evidence would become Matter of Record in the Proceedings of the Court Martial, and that, should the Issue not prove a sufficient Satisfaction to Mr Verspyck, a Prosecution for Damages might be commenced at his Instance in the Supreme Court of Judicature against the Gentlemen who are said to have insulted him, and we should pass such Judgment on their Conduct as it might appear from the Proceedings of the Court Martial to require

Consn 24th August

Consn 8th Sept.

48 The Hon'ble Isaac Titzing has been appointed by the Government General of Batavia to the Directorship at Chinsura, and has taken Charge of this Office.

Consn 10th October

49 We have received a Letter from the Governor General and Council at Batavia expressing in strong Terms their Acknowledgements to this Government for the Restoration to the Dutch of their Establishments in these Provinces, but complaining of the Delay that was permitted on the Coast of Coromandel.

50 We received a Letter also on the same Subject from the Governor and Council of Columbo who acquainted us that Orders had been given to a Captain of their Squadron to proceed to Fort St. George for the Purpose of remonstrating against the Delay that had been allowed of in making the Restitutions to the Dutch on the Coasts of Coromandel Madura Orisa and requiring that they should be made immediately agreeably to the Treaty of Peace

51 We acquainted the Governor and Council of Columbo with the Advice which we had received from Fort St. George that, in Consequence of the Instructions which we had given to them they had directed the Restitution of all the Dutch Possessions on the Coast and that we doubted not that every Thing had been settled to their Satisfaction.

52 The 3d Article of the Preliminary Treaty which was concluded on the 2d September 1783 between his Britannic Majesty and the States General of the United Provinces having stipulated that each Power shall discharge the Advances which shall have been made for the Subsistence and Maintenance of their Prisoners by the Sovereign of their Country where they shall have been detained according to the Receipts attested Accounts, and other authentic Vouchers which shall be furnished on each Side, we have requested the Gentlemen in Charge of Your affairs at Fort St. George and Bombay to transmit to us a Statement of the said Advances to the Dutch Prisoners who had been substed and maintained at any Places under their Authority during the late War with Holland and to furnish us also with authenticated Vouchers relative thereto

Danes

53 The 8th Paragraph of Your General Letter of the 11th April transmits to us a Letter addressed to Lord Carmarthen one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State by the Danish Charge des Affaires complaining of an unfriendly Disposition in this Government towards the Government of Tranquebar respecting their not being supplied with Provisions. Our Proceedings on the Occasion of this Complaint are before You in our Consultations of the 10th and 16th December 1783. You may be assured of our Compliance with your Directions and that we shall render every assistance to the Danish Government at Tranquebar that may not be inconsistent with our own immediate Wants and necessities and the Wants and Necessities of any other Provinces.

54 We have the Honour to inform you that in the Month of June

last a Vessel called the Hydra having the Colours of the United States of America arrived in this River on examining the Supra Cargo of the Ship it appeared that he had a French Commission and that he considered himself as entitled to proceed to Chandernagore either under French or American colours unwilling to furnish the states of America with any Pretext for prohibiting the Importance into America of the Manufacture of India we permitted the Ship to hoist French Colours and the Goods were then landed.

55 It is by no Means improbable that more Ships under the Colours of the United States of America may arrive in this River, and we shall hope to be honored with Your Commands to guide our Proceedings in such Cases.

56 We transmit to you a List of the Foreign Ships and Vessels that have imported in the present Year.

57 If the Trade of Bengal be not thrown open a Necessity will force itself for taking such Measures as shall prevent Foreigners from availing themselves of British Property to purchase their Investment for Europe No Law can effectually restrain British Subjects from lending Money to Foreign Nations and to Foreign Individuals, when no other safe Means of Remittance offer particularly Foreigners [*sic*] are often furnished with Bills drawn upon Gentlemen in Bengal and it is a Question of Law whether the Payment of Bills in such Manner altho it provides Foreigners with money can be construed as a Breach of the Act of Parliament The Obvious remedy to the Evil is to enlarge Your Investment, and to permit Your Servants and those under the Company's Protection to remit thro' the Company's Cash The Subject is already before You, and we earnestly recommend it to Your most serious Consideration.

See Governor General [s] Minute of 9th April last, transmitted with the Genl Letters of 29th April and 31st July

Fort William,
25 October 1785.

We have the Honor to be &c.

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LETTER DATED 25 OCTOBER 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Retrenchment and reforms—state of civil and military establishments

TO the Hon'ble Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, at their House in Leaden Hall Street, London

1. We had the Honor of addressing you from this Department on the 25th Ultimo before the receipt of your Commands contained in your

separate Letter of the 11th April and received Per Ship Dutton Our Letter of the 25th September attends you in the Packet under Dispatch.

Your Honourable Court has been duly advised that as in the Month of December last before We had any information of the passing of the late Act of Parliament we had agreed on many Resolutions for a Reform in your Civil and Military Charges under this Government. You had called upon us in the most solemn manner to Verify the Estimates which you had Submitted to Parliament of your Stock, Disbursements and Resources. You enjoined us in the most serious Terms every possible Retrenchment in the Expenses of this Government. You left the Detail of this Operation to our Direction and You invested us with the fullest powers to accomplish what you so earnestly prescribed.

2 Upon these Authorities we beg leave to Act with an earnest Zeal to execute Your Orders, and upon the same Authorities and a subsequent knowledge of the Injunctions contained in the late Act of Parliament. We have diligently proceeded in the arduous Work of Retrenchment but we had Difficulties to encounter of which we were not apprized at the Outset. We had accounts to collect which never had been detailed before and much Time was necessarily employed in obtaining from the most distant parts of your Dominions under our Government the Materials from which clear and comparative Statements should be formed.

The necessary Accounts were obtained and the Statements were prepared and these have been transmitted to you as opportunities occurred, agreeably to the enclosed List.

You have been duly and regularly informed of the Progress which, we have made in Reducing your Expenses. You have been advised of the Principles on which we resolved that the Reform should be Conducted and you know the Regulations that we have adopted.

3 We have the Honor to transmit to you a Statement of the Retrenchments which We had made and passed before our Receipt of your last Commands. It was Established as a leading principle of those Retrenchments that altho all Offices that could be dispensed with should be abolished We should nevertheless leave to Each a necessarily existing Office allowance for the Labour attending it. We proposed by adopting such a principle as our Guide to encourage Industry and reward Merit and by not reducing your Servants to a hard and scanty provision for their Subsistence to remove the Necessity to which they might otherwise be subjected of seeking Improper profits. We believed that a System of Economy founded upon these liberal principles and controuled by wise Regulations properly enforced would be your best security for the Integrity of Your Servants and for the success of their Management for the Public.

4 Your Instructions of the 11th April were opened at Full Meeting of our Council on the 2^d of last Month and we proceeded on the next Day to pass such Resolutions upon them as they required. We resolved that the Recommendations should have immediate Operation throughout the

Service. A Representation was afterwards made to us by the Military Pay Master General that much Confusion would ensue from an immediate Compliance with this Duction, and that it was opposed to a Standing Order of Government for many years past, which required that all Orders should be in force from the first Day of the Month following that in which they would reach the different Stations of the Army We found it necessary to yield to the reasons on which this representation was grounded and as it would be a Hardship to Servants holding Civil Offices stationed at a Distance from the Presidency, if in similar Circumstances with Servants holding Military Offices they should not be allowed similar attention We have directed that the Several Reductions ordered by your Hon'ble Court in your Separate General Letter of the 11th April last shall take place in as far as they respect Offices at the Presidency from the 30th of last Month, and in as far as they Respect Offices not held at the Presidency from the 31st Instant

5 This Order has relation only to such of the Retrenchments made by your Authority as had not been made and Carried into Execution by this Government before the Receipt of your last Instructions On receiving those Instructions we had the Satisfaction to observe that we had in many Instances anticipated your Wishes by having actually effected inconsiderable Savings of Expence in several of the Charges which you have deemed Objects of Reform We shall take the liberty of enumerating them in their proper Places in this address

6 We have now the Honor to report to you the Orders which We have issued on the several Paragraphs of your Instructions of the 11th April, and on the Lists of Retrenchments to which they refer

7 We have thought it necessary to direct the Accomptant General to the Revenue Department to furnish us as expeditiously as possible with an Account of the Established Charges of every Branch of the Revenue Service as these stood on the 1st May 1776, And as they were Stated in the Revenue Accounts for the year 1776/7 transmitted to you by your Ship Duke of Portland

8 We esteem ourselves fortunate that we have it in our power to observe that the Assurances contained in our Advices of the 5th of April 1783 and referred to by your Hon'ble Court have been fulfilled No time was lost by your present administration in taking into Consideration the Burthen of Expence in your Revenue Charges We accordingly reduced the same from the sum of Rs 95,19,848-10-12-2 to Rs 77,69,848-10-12-2 per Annum, and thereby left only the sum of about Rs 5,00,000 to be retrenched in Conformity to your last Commands, which have directed that the Charges of Collection, the allowances to Zemindars, the Expences of the Courts of Adawlet, and the Stipends to the Nabob and his Ministers shall not hence forth exceed the annual Sum of 72 Lacks of Sicca Rupees

9 The Sum remaining to be retrenched in the Revenue Charges shall

be divided with an equal Hand and the Strictest Impartiality and We shall take care so to order this Reduction that it shall not operate to an Alteration of the Stipends or allowances to the Nabob and his Ministers or to the Annual Allowances to Zemindars or other Natives entitled to Stipends in Virtue of positive Stipulations with our Government. That we might be enabled to carry your Instructions into the earliest Effect and with every Official Information before us, We called upon the Committee of Revenue and Accomptant General to the Revenue Department to lay before us the proper Estimates and propose the necessary Regulations for this purpose. The Committee were also Ordered to Submit to us an exact relation of the grant of Morhaira to Zemindars¹ and of the Institution of Courts of Adawlet that we might be enabled to Determine how far a Reformation be effected in these Expences without Disregard to your Commands.

10 The Committee and Accomptant General to the Revenue Department have in consequence delivered in their Report of the proposed reduction of Revenue charges. This Report convinces us of the practicability of reducing the whole to the sum of 72 Lacks per Annum Agreeably to your Orders We do not transmit a Copy of it by this Dispatch because we believe upon a cursory Perusal of it that the Arrangements which are proposed will require some alterations and We do not wish to transmit those Arrangements to you until they shall have been properly Completed. You may be Assured of the Reduction

11 Your Directions for abolishing the Board of Customs were in a great Measure anticipated by our Resolutions of the
Para. 7 & 9 20th December 1784 and 27th January 1785 which entirely annihilated that Board We have now Resolved in Consequence of your Orders that the office of President of the Department of Customs shall be annulled and that the Management of the Customs be Committed to the Charge of the Committee of Revenue but without any Addition to their allowances on this Account.

12 The allowances to the Collectors of Government Customs are reduced to what they were in 1776 and the Fees on Rowannas at the
Para. 10 present rate are to be collected for the Company The whole expence of collecting the Government Customs will be included in the 72 Lacks appropriated for the Charges of the Revenues

13 The Salary to the Company's Custom Master and the Allowances to his Deputy are reformed agreeably to your
Para. 11 Orders

14 Your Directions for reducing the Expences of the Salt Department have been in a great Measure anticipated by the Resolutions which We have passed at different Times in the
Para. 12, 13, 14 Course of the present Year on the 27th January we resolved that the Commission of Ten Per Cent then drawn up on the Nett profits of the Salt and divided between the Company and Agents should be reduced to five per Cent and that the Deputies to the Salt Agents should be annulled

15 On the 27th June We resolved that the Salary and Allowances

of the President of the Committee of Revenue should be Reduced to 55,000 Rupees per Annum and those of each Member to 45,000 Rupees Pr. Annum. but should there be any general Increase in the net Collections of the next Years respectively beyond the Average amount of the net Collections for the last four years, We agreed that a Commission should be granted to them and to the Established Collectors of the Revenue in addition to their Salaries, and divided by the Board at the End of each year in such proportions as we might think proper to determine and upon this principle Vizt that the whole Receipts of the President of the Committee of Revenue should not exceed 60,000, Rupees, and of each member 50,000 Rupees pr. Annum, and of Each of the Collectors 3,000 Rupees pr Mensem Having passed these Resolutions we directed that the Allowances to the Comptroller of the Salt Department and to the Salt Agents should be reduced to a Level with those of the President and Members of the Committee of Revenue, and encreased in the same manner and upon the same principles on any addition that should be produced from year to year upon the Average of the Salt Collections for the last Three Years We also directed that the Agents should draw Monthly the Sums which they had severally stated to the Accomptant General, as actually disbursed by them for Sircars and other Servants But that in their Bills for these they should declare that the Sums drawn had been actually disbursed by them for the purposes therein mentioned

16 What we have not ourselves done respecting the Salt Department, and remains to be ordered agreeably to your Commands, will be carried into immediate Execution

17 We have carried into Execution the Orders of your Hon'ble Court directing that the allowances of the Offices under the Civil Department should be Confined to the Amount in the Year 1776, according to the List No 15 accompanying your General Letter of the 11th April

18 We beg Leave to Consider the List in this place, and to acquaint you with our remarks on the different parts of it Our resolutions will appear upon our Proceedings in the Public Department of the 28th September which accompany this address

19 You are pleased to Order that the allowances granted to the Governor General for House Rent in the year 1779, and amounting to Sicca Rupees 12,000 per Annum be abolished

Remark ' The following Resolution was passed by this Government on the 27th of last June,

"The Lease of the House now Occupied by the Governor General's Family will expire on the 1st of next Month (July) and another House is then to be taken at the reduced rent of CRs 586-4-10 pr Mensem " As We had passed orders on the 27th June for a General Reform in the charge of House Rent, and the allowances of the Governor General's Staff under this Head which formed a principal part of their Establishment, became Subject to these Orders A House was granted for all the Staff in lieu of these allowances but even this expence has now Ceased

20 The Reduction of the whole expence for Allowances to the Secretaries and Assistants in the Public and Secret Departments Ordered by your Hon ble Court leads us to observe that the House occupied by the Secretary to the Secret Department having been taken upon a Lease and upon the faith of a Resolution of Government which had Ordered that the Secret should be separated from the Public Records and a House taken for the Care of the former We resolved on the 8th March to pay the Expence thereof to the 1st December when the Lease will Expire.

21 You are pleased to Reduce the amount allowed to the Secretary and Assistants in the Department of Inspection.

Remark The Business that was allotted to the Board in the Department of Inspection being now principally divided between our Public and Secret Offices and the Allowance granted by your Orders for Conducting the Duties of them being We fear with the utmost Oeconomy insufficient for this purpose We have included in the Establishment for the Secret and Public Departments the reduced allowance that you have permitted to be drawn for the Department of Inspection.

22 You are pleased to Reduce the amount of the Allowance granted to the Assistant to the Comptroller of Offices.

Remark This Office was wholly Reduced on the 13th of April 1780 but as the Expence allowed for the Accomptant General and his Establishment have been considerably retrenched and as the Duties formerly performed by the Assistant to the Comptroller of Offices are now done in the Accomptant General's Department we have added the reduced allowance to the Assistant of the Comptroller to the Establishment of the Accomptant General.

23 You are pleased to direct that the Office of Comptroller of Standing Orders and its Salary and the Salary and House rent to the Printer of the Company should be abolished

Remark These were abolished by our Resolutions of the 27th of last June

24 You are pleased to direct that the Salary and House Rent to the Surveyor General should be reduced to Sa. Rs 6000 as in 1776

Remark This order has been Carried into Execution but had been nearly anticipated by our former Resolutions.

25 We directed on the 8th March that no Allowance should be granted from the End of that Month to Engineer Officers excepting their Pay and Batta unless by Order of the Board for particular Services and We agreed on the 3rd May that in Consideration of the Labour that must attend the prosecution of the Work to be completed by Captain Call and in Consideration of the Office which he holds of Surveyor General he should be permitted to draw the Monthly Salary of Rupees 601 theretofore annexed to that Office but no other Allowance excepting his Pay and Batta as Captain of Engineers and the House Rent of his Rank in the Service when he had not Quarters in Fort William

26 The Comandancy at Hyderabad and the Establishment belonging

to it, were annulled by our Orders of the 1st of March last, and the Expence thereof Ceased some months ago

27. Our address of the 14th January last advised you of the Reasons which had urged us to the appointment of John Carnac Esqr to be Resident on the part of this Government at Goa, and of the essential Purposes which such Appointment was calculated to answer We are yet decidedly of Opinion that the local knowledge, and the abilities of Mr Carnac may be of important service to your Interest at that Station, and We have not observed therefore without Concern that the Office is abolished by the Retrenchments which have passed your Hon'ble Court, but as at that Period you were not informed of the Nomination of Mr Carnac, to be our Minister at Goa, or of the Motives which influenced it and as from the Situation of Tippoo and the Mahrattas his Services would at this Moment be essentially acceptable to you, We are hopeful that your Resolutions for Reducing this Office may be Considered, and that if Circumstances should hereafter render it as necessary and adviseable as at present the selection of Mr Carnac for the Trust which we have reposed in him will be honoured with your approbation The expence of the Appointment is totally reduced, but Mr Carnac's Commission as the Minister of this Government remain and can only be revoked by your authority, an authority which we trust ever will be exercised so severe a purpose against a servant who was once in high repute, who received your Highest approbation, who possessed the Confidence of Lord Clive and who has in our Opinion every Claim to your attention independant of his Sufferings of the rank which he enjoyed in your Service, and of that to which he rose in the Service of his Majesty

28 The only Political Residency now existing is the Residency of Mahajee Sindia The Continuance of it appears to us indispensibly necessary, and we believe that the allowances to which it was Reduced in May last are so far from admitting of Retrenchments that they are hardly equivalent to his Necessary Expences and the due support of his Station which must in many Instances make heavy Demands or Durbar Charges both here and at Lucknow You are aware that Mr Anderson your Resident with Scindia, is likewise your Minister with Shaw Allum

29 Another Resident may be said to exist in the Person of Mr Malet appointed to Poona but our ultimate Resolutions on the necessity of his proceeding to that place must depend on Contingent Events, and be in the end determined by the Conduct of Scindia, the State of Parties at Poona, and the Conduct of Tippoo

30 The Expence of a Deputation to Thibet² has Ceased since the Middle of the last Year, and the Charge for the Residency with Shaw Allum was abolished on the recall of Major Brown

31 We have taken into mature Consideration the Orders of your Hon'ble Court respecting the Residency at Furruckabad

32 This Appointment might be considered on its Original Footing as an unnecessary Ministerial Residency at the Court of Native Princes,

but the Objects of it have been lately altered. An important arrangement took place in regard to this office before our receipt of your Commands. The hopeless situation of the Nabob Mozuffer Jung. The Recovery of the country of Furruckabad from the Miseries and Desolations which it Suffered and yet suffers. The Regulation of the police in that Capital and the due Discharge of the Engagements stipulated in the Treaty between his Excellency the Vizier and the Nabob of Ferrucknabad of which the Company are guaranteed were and still remain considerations of great importance to the Credit of your Protection and to the Rights of the Nabob Mozuffer Jung. The Residency does not therefore appear to us in the light of an unnecessary Ministerial Residency and availing ourselves of the direction allowed to us in the 17th Paragraph of your Instructions We have Resolved on its Continuance but that any Expence incident thereto shall not be charged to the Company's Account. Our Arrangements for Furruckabad have been Communicated to you in our last advices from the Secret Department and We trust that our Conduct in not abolishing so Necessary an Office will be honored by your approval for independant of the Continuance of the Residency the whole arrangement of Furruckabad must on its Ceasing have fallen to the Ground it was not agreeable to the Native administration of Lucknow and it was not for your Interest that an Arrangement once adapted and not Satisfactory to the Vizier should be overturned at a moment when he might deem the abolition of it a Concession to the wishes of his Ministers.

33 We shall take into Early Revision the mode that is in practice for Supplying the Hospital with Medicines and for discharging the Expences of the Medicine Shop in Calcutta and We shall be guided by the Spirit of your Instructions in any Resolutions that we may find it necessary to pass on these Charges.

34 We shall seriously and immediately consider what Articles of Expence not yet returned in your Civil Department will admit of Reduction and We shall order every practicable Retrenchment in the same and such temporary appointments as were made in Consequence of the War and are yet in Existence shall be abolished without Delay.

35 It shall be our earnest Endeavours to reduce the Total Civil Charges of our Government including the Expence of the Supreme Court of Judicature to the Sum of 20 Lacks of Rupees per Annum and when you shall be pleased to transmit to us your final arrangements of Establishments at this Settlement they shall be carried into immediate Execution you will

at the same time be pleased to observe that the Expences of the Supreme Court of Judicature are now greatly above what they were in 1770 and that we do not possess the power of reducing them. Other Circumstances will explain to you the difficulty of lowering the Expences of our Civil Establishments to the Standard which you have fixed. But we have the satisfaction to assure you that no part of the difficulty can, or will arise from our want of disposition or determination to obey

your Commands and serve the great Object of your Wishes

36 The Charges of your Marine shall be reduced as expeditiously as possible and if possible immediately to the Expence in 1776. We have called upon the Marine Paymaster to furnish us with a
 Para 22 Comparative Statement of the Marine Charges in Bengal in the years 1776/7, 1784/5

37. The several Reductions which we have effected in your Military Establishment have been Regularly Communicated to you in our General Advices See General Letters dated 31st June, 22nd February, 25th March and 31st July of the present year, and Resolved on carrying into the Earliest
 Para 23 Effect the Orders which you have transmitted to us with the list of Military Offices, and Employs accompanying your General Letter of the 11th April We have also directed the Military Paymaster General and Commissary General to prepare a Correct Account of your Military Disbursements in 1776, and of those which Exist at present, and to lay the same before us

38 We beg leave to offer the following Information and Remarks on the Reduction Ordered by your Honourable Court of Military Offices and Employs

39 You have directed that the Governor General's Staff be reduced to what it was in 1776.

Remark On the Occasion of your present Governor General to the principal Charge of your Affairs, he proposed a Staff of only three Aid-de-Camps, and no more were then, or have been since appointed, One of these now reduced agreeably to your directions He also recommended the Reduction of his Body Guard from 100 to 50 Troopers You have been pleased to permit the Continuance of the last Number

40 Orders are given for the abolition of the Governor General's Body Guard of Infantry

Remark This was Reduced on the 15th February last.

41. Orders are given for a Reduction of the Allowance for House Rent to the Commander in Chief from Sa Rs 24,000 to Sa Rs 8,000 per Annum

Remark . We have the Honor to refer you to our public Consultation of the 28th ultimo for a perusal of the Minutes which are Recorded on this Order It will be Carried into strict Execution on the 1st of January when the Lease of the House that has been long tenanted for the Commander in Chief of the Forces will expire

42 Directions are given for the abolition of the Staff of Aid-de-Camp to the eventual Successor to the Government

Remark This Office has not existed since the 1st of August

43 We have the Honor to observe to you on the Order for abolishing the Office of Commandant of Fort William Garrison that you will perceive by the Resolutions transmitted to you with our address of the 25th ultimo that it had been actually determined to reduce this Office and the Establishment annexed to it

44. We also think it necessary to remark that the Allowance given to

the Paymaster of the Works was not only diminished but totally abolished on the 30th August 1784 and the Office itself annulled on the 30th last June.

45 Your Reduction of the allowances to the Office of Military Paymaster General having been Communicated to Mr Alexander who has long filled this Station he has addressed a Letter to us on the Subject which we transmitted to you a Number in the Packet.

46 You have been pleased to direct that the Office of Quarter Master General be abolished

Remark Lieut Colonel Macpherson who held the Office of Quarter Master General has addressed us on the Reduction of it He has stated to us the period for which the Office has Existed the Number of Years for which he has been in your Service without once returning to Europe or being absent from Duty and His Hope that when Necessity may call for a renewal of the Office and while he shall be able to Act, no other person may be Nominated to it or appointed to serve in this line of Duty Colonel Macpherson has made us also a voluntary Offer to continue to do the Duty of Quarter Master General without Pay or Batta, or any additional Expence to the Hon ble Company until your pleasure should be known but sensible as we are of the Services of Colonel Macpherson we have not thought ourselves at Liberty to agree to his proposal as your Orders were unqualified for abolishing the Office altogether

47 With respect to the Reduction of the Offices of Paymaster to the Militia Sepoys we beg leave to inform you that they have not existed since the 12th of August 1783.

48 You are pleased to direct that the Offices of Paymaster and Deputy Paymaster to the Detachment at Futty Ghur and of Deputy Paymaster at Chunar be abolished

Remark We apprehend that it may not have been Considered when this Order was passed that In the Year 1770 there was no Detachment of your Troops at Futty Ghur which required a Separate Paymaster nor any such Detachment at Chunar Ghur as made a Deputy Paymaster Necessary at that Station and that large Detachments have been since for many Months at both places.

49 We have given Orders for reducing the Number of Paymasters and Deputies to that limited by your Instructions and shall appoint two of the Deputies to Act in the Pay offices at Futty Chur and Chunar

50 The Office of Auditor beyond the Carnarua was Reduced before our Receipt of your Commands and according to your Orders We have directed the abolition of the place of Paymaster General to the Troops beyond the provinces The Office of Deputy Paymaster to these Troops was never in our Establishments

51 The Office of Chaplain to the Army had not Existed from the Time of the Death of your late Commander in Chief to that of the Arrival of his Successor when it was filled by the Revd Mr Goddard whom you were pleased to appoint the General's Chaplain On the Arrival of your Orders the Office was in Course abolished But assured that it could not have

been the Intention of your Hon'ble Court that the Chaplain to the Commander in Chief of your Forces should be entirely without Subsistence We have directed that the General's Chaplain do receive the same Monthly Salary as that to which you have reduced the Allowances of a Chaplain to a Brigade We have further Resolved that Mr. Goddard shall succeed to the first Vacant Brigade Mr Owen lately Appointed by your Court to succeed to the first Vacant Chaplainship on the Establishment is soon to be provided for

52 We have the Honor to observe to you on the abolition of the Chaplaincy to the Troops in the Viziers Dominions, that there is no Office that can come under this Description, excepting the Chaplainship to the Brigade at Cawnpore, the Salary of which has been provided for with those of the other Chaplains of Brigades in your Orders of the 11th April

53 Your Directions for Diminishing the Expence of your Establishment in the Ordnance Department had been anticipated in a great degree by the Resolutions which we had agreed to before the Receipt of your Commands

54. Your Hon'ble Court may be assured of our punctual obedience to your directions that We should make no promotions of Field or other Officers until all such as are Supernumerary shall have been provided for, or until we shall receive other Orders from you

55 We have had the Honor to Communicate to you in our advices from this Department in the Course of the present Year the Resolution which we had passed and determined to adhere to, of reducing your Contingent Charges within the narrowest possible Limits In truth we Consider them as the Source of the greatest Evil in your Military Expences Our late Regulations for the Pay Masters Department and the Orders which were Issued at the Recommendation of the Governor General in the Month of March will advise you of the Measures which we have adopted to counteract this Evil and Check its source, We have reserved to the Board, and imposed on Ourselves the Duty of Auditing of all Charges of a Contingent Nature

56 The Expence of House Rent has been reformed by our Resolutions of the 27th of June to an Amount which has produced a very great saving in your Disbursements, and the Determination of the Commander in Chief not to allow Supernumerary Officers to be stationed without the provinces, or the unnecessary Removal of Officers from one Corps to another will reduce the Boat Charges to the most Moderate Bounds We shall revise your Hospital Expences as soon as possible, and make such saving in this Article as the Nature of it will permit

57. We took into our Consideration in February last the heavy Expence to which you were subjected for Bullocks, Elephants and Camels and made such Retrenchments thereof as Circumstances Rendered practicable We reduced the number of Draught and Carriage Bullocks within and without the Provinces, from 4074 to 3171. We discharged all the Camels and we directed that the Number of Elephants which were furnished by Contract (there are no others

in your Service) should be distributed by the Commander in Chief to the several Corps Composing the Army for Carriage of the Camp Equipage, and such other Services as not only Elephants but Camels had been Employed on to that Time It was much our wish also to reduce the Charge for Elephants but as this Existed on a Contract which Could not be revoked It was not in our power to reform it until the Contract should Cease which will be on the 31st Decemher 1760

58 We have anticipated your Orders Contained in this Paragraph by
 Para. 26 reducing the Contingencies for Writers Sircars &c. to Field Officers within the lowest Limits.

59 These Instructions have been Communicated to Major General Stibbert and we shall strictly Conform to them The Senlor Colonel
 Para. 27 28 Commanding a Brigade will on the departure of Major General Stibbert be considered as the Officer next in Rank in Bengal to the Commander in Chief in India and shall receive as such an Addition of Sonat Rupees 8 000 per Annum to his usual Allowances and in as far as depends on us your Intentions shall be fulfilled that after the Departure of General Stibbert the Second in Command shall not be promoted to an higher rank than that of Colonel

60 We have had the Honor to reply to this Paragraph in our
 Para. 29 Observations upon the Orders contained in the List of Military Offices and Employes

61 You are pleased to direct that such Officers as may be thrown out of Immediate Employ in Consequence of your Orders being Carried into Execution may be allowed the Pay and half Batta of their
 Para. 30 respective Ranks in the Service till Vacancies happen as it is not your Intention by any Means to deprive them of a decent Subsistence

62 Your Hon ble Court may be assured of our strictest Compliance with all your Commands but we are not perfectly sure of the Construction that should be put upon this Order unless it be that Officers thrown out of Employ should receive the Allowance mentioned in Addition to pay and Half Batta which is the lowest Allowance that your Officers have always received whether they were in Employ or not

63 These Orders have been Communicated to the Board of Trade to whom we have also transmitted your List of Retrenchments in the Commercial Department
 Para. 31

64 Our His rty Hon ble Sirs have been unremitted in the present Year to reduce the Expences of this Government and We
 Para. 32 venture to affirm that they have not been unsuccessful Your Recommendation shall in all Cases be attended to with the strictest regard to your Interest as I would

65 This Paragraph has been generally replied to in our present address It remains only to Observe we have furnished
 Para. 33 you with Copies of Lists of your Civil and Military Establishment and that we shall do so with Regularity every year but we think it incumbent on us to submit to you that as your Establishments in

Bengal are now much overcharged with Officers in both Services, We sincerely wish that no Writers or Cadets may be Nominated to this Presidency until occasion shall absolutely and indispensibly require their Appointment We at the same time acknowledge that it is not in the inferior but regular Departments of your Civil Establishment that the Service is Overloaded

66 Service as the Alteration is which the Retrenchments ordered by your Hon'ble Court will produce in the Circumstances of your Servants, we take upon us to assure you that your Orders are received throughout the Service on a more liberal principle than that of compulsive obedience The immediate suffering in any System of Reform cannot at first in admitting a General Necessity feel the Justice of their particular losses We avail ourselves of the hope held out to your Servants in General for their Satisfaction Vizt that openings in the Service will again gradually occur and that Distributions of Situations will be made as they fall with the Strictest Impartiality They acknowledge the Attention of your Hon'ble Court in allotting some allowances to the different Ranks of your Servants who are deprived of an Employ in more lucrative Situations

67 In Consequence of this Indulgence we have abolished the allowances to Gentlemen whose Offices had been reformed by our Authority, and we have placed them in the same Situation with those Servants whose Offices have been reduced by your Commands by allowing them the pensions you have prescribed We have also found it Necessary to restore to all your Servants the trifling and Common allowances for Diet, House Rent, Moonsheys etc which on a System of Regulation, as well as Oeconomy had been discontinued to them by our Resolutions of the 27th of January and 27th June

68 Mr Joseph Fowke, having addressed us on the Subject of the Reduction of his Allowance and requested that his Representation might be transmitted to you a Number in the Packet of the Intelligence, it waits on you accordingly

69 It has even been our Object to give a preference to the Army in our payments from the Treasury Your Directions have now made this Rule, a Rule of peculiar Obligations and at the same time that we assure you of our Determination to observe it with strict attention We cannot pass the occasion that is presented to us of affording our Testimony to the Just and Hon'ble Policy on which it is founded

70 We have now finished our Replies to your several Commands and we trust to your Satisfaction, but before we close this address we think ourselves required to solicit your attention to a Representation that we have to offer in favor of your Servants

71 The Situation in which many of your Servants are placed by your late Orders is a situation of mere Subsistence With some it Cannot afford so much There are Offices under this Government of the Highest Trust, and these are as they ought to be filled by Men whose Characters for Ability and Integrity are secure pledges to us for the faithful performance of their Duty, but that is a dangerous policy in any State which puts the

Virtue of Individuals to too Sudden and Severe a Trial. Gentlemen in high and laborious Employments ought not to be thrown into any situation which must make it necessary for them to look for profits out of their regular line of service. Their Offices require an exclusive attention to the Duties of them and their allowances should be sufficient not only for their mere Support, but to afford some Prospect of a Provision for future years perhaps it may be supposed that there are Official perquisites here as in England which render salary of little Consideration This however is not the Case and the Peculiar legal Restrictions and Responsibility under which the Duty of every Office in the Company's Service is now executed precludes advantages.

72. The Allowances to your Servants are reduced to the Standard of 1776 but the advantages of a Residence in this Country are not nor can they be lessened only in the Course of Time Commerce is at such an Ebb that Gentlemen permitted to engage in it cannot engage in it with advantage. In 1776 the usage of the Service had in some degree warranted certain profits to particular Stations, but these Openings are now Closed by an Act of the British Legislature

73 We believe that there are Few Gentlemen under a Government of Minds more liberally framed and more honorably disposed than your Servants in Bengal and we believe that there are few in any Public Line of Duty more Capable or more willing to serve their Country in the Discharge of their Respective Trusts

74 This Assertion in favor of your Servants is untinged with any local prejudice and it is perhaps for the Credit of Human Talents and the Dispositions of the Mind that the rock is demonstrable notwithstanding the unfavourable Opinions which prevail in Europe. By those Observations we mean not to Vindicate particular Mismanagements or oppressions, nor in any degree to assert that the Expenditures and allowances to the Gentlemen in your Employ exceeded not the Just Bounds of any Service. We were of this Opinion before We received your Orders of Reduction and your Servants admitted the fact on their cheerful acquiescence

75 The Retrenchments which we have made and Communicated to you have produced as we have before mentioned in this address large Savings of Public Expence and the Regulations which we have passed have been calculated to prevent future abuses where ever they may arise We have reduced unnecessary Offices and we have Apportioned the allowances to others according to the Nature and Responsibility of their Duties. We propose to continue this Work and to finish it so that it may be in Readiness to be transmitted to you by some of the early Ships of the present Season We shall then do ourselves the Honor of forwarding to you complete Establishments and a Complete Digest of Regulations for your Civil and Military Departments. We shall solicit your serious attention to them, and if we could presume to hope that a Substitution of them in the place of those which are or may be established by your Hon'ble Court without the lights which we possess upon the Spot, could

be allowed we are persuaded that the Event would coincide with your Wishes and prove most favorable to the Public Interest Permit us to add that we have a Claim to your Indulgence and attention in this Recommendation. It was not to avow disobedience of Orders, but from an Active Principle of Attachment to the Interest of our Employers that we undertook, and have so far executed the Work of Reform, a Work the most arduous and the most displeasing that any administration can attempt and which has Seldom in any Country and with all its claim to Public applause procured the Merited attention to its authors But where real Duty is to be performed the Agents are Sufficiently fortunate who succeed in Executing it, and should we be so happy as to Establish a title to your approbation by our present labours, We should wish only to influence your good will, and the attention of our Country, in favor of our Fellow Servants, who by their willing Obedience, and the exertion of real ability and knowledge have assisted us in the performance of our Duty

Fort William,
25th October 1785
[Per *Intelligence*

We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful Humble Servants,
John Macpherson/Ro Sloper/
John Stables/Chas Stuart

P.S We have had the Honor to observe to you in this Letter that in Consequence of your Orders by the Dutton we had reduced the Office of President of the Department of Customs, on Mr Mackenzie's receiving Intimation of this Reduction he addressed a Representation to us on the subject of it In justice to Mr Mackenzie and to the Arguments which he has stated we think it proper to transmit a Copy of his Letter and its Enclosures, Numbers in the Packet and to Request your Early Opinion thereon. We also Enclose Copies of our Minutes on the Subject, which have been followed by a Resolution to appoint Mr Mackenzie to a Seat in the Committee of Revenue but with a deliberate Voice there at and without Salary until a Vacancy shall occur, when he is to supply it

We transmit also enclosed a Representation that has been laid before us by the Commander in Chief from the Reverend Mr Mackennon Chaplain to the 1st Brigade It states the difficulties suffered by your Chaplains from the Reduction of their Allowances to Captain's Pay and Batta and it respectfully Solicits a Restoration of them to the Amount at which they stood before your Orders Arrived The Request appears to us Reasonable, and we recommend it to your serious and favorable attention

LETTER DATED 25 OCTOBER 1785

Sindia seeks British help against Tipu—Maratha interference in Bundelkhand—return of Jawan Bukht—Browne's correspondence—payment of dues

by Nawab Vazir—settlement of revenues of Farrukhabad—concessions by Sindia to English in Broach

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon ble Sirs

1 We had the honor to address you on the 31st July last by your Ship Swallow which sailed on the 10th August. A duplicate of our advices by that conveyance has since been sent to you by the Danish Ship Lucia Emerinze and we have now the honor to forward them in triplicate with a broken set of our consultations from the 1st August to the 11th October inclusive and their index

2d We beg leave to acknowledge our receipt of your General letter of the 11th April last per ship Dutton. The 4th 5th 60th and 63rd paragraphs thereof are the only paragraphs that relate to this department and you may be assured of our ready attention to them

3rd Your Honble Court has already been advised of the commencement of hostilities between the Maratta Government and the Nobob Tippoo Sultaun You have been informed of the application which was made to Mr Anderson by Mahajee Sindia for our assistance to the Marattas,¹ and of the instructions which we gave to Mr Anderson for his guidance in the event of an introduction of the subject on any future occasion such occasion soon offered and Sindia was anxious to know our determination but as it appeared possible from the distracted state of the Government of Poona that they might be led to accept of propositions from Tippoo for the re-establishment of peace and as in that case it would be unnecessary to announce our non compliance with Sindia's proposition Mr Anderson very properly determined rather to suspend a communication of all resolves and suffer another reference to be made to us than acquaint Mahajee Sindia immediately with the instructions which we had sent to him he was also induced to adopt this mode of procedure from a supposition that if the Marattas were determined to shape their conduct towards Tippoo according to the answer which they might receive from us the sentence in which they would be kept might induce them to defer coming to any terms with him until an accommodation might be no longer practicable

4th Our subsequent advices from Mr Anderson acquaint us that the subject had been again brought forward that Sindia had enquired of him in a particular manner whether he had yet received any answer to the reference that must follow and on your instant remembrance to the relative that Sir Alexander expressed great anxiety on that account and requested that Mr Anderson would address us again on the subject which he had made reference to us by the Ship Swallow He observed at the same time that when this proposal had been formerly offered a door would be left open for a communication although he said it had actually taken place

Mr. Anderson's letter dated 8th Sept
Consn 11 Oct

but that matters had since taken such a turn as precluded the possibility of peace, and that both Nizam Ally Khan and the Peshwa were making great preparations to act against the Mysorian

5th. Sindia is not very sanguine in his expectation of assistance from us, nor does he rest his hopes so much on any claim of right to it as in the impression which he has received that it is for the interest of the Company that they should join in a confederacy against Tippoo Sultan

Mr Anderson's letter dated the 4th July
Consn 24 Aug

6th. An application having been made by Ransor Sinoy the Maratta Vakeel in the name of the administration at Poonah, to your President and Council of Bombay similar to that to Mr Anderson by Mahajee Sindia, they referred him to this Government for an answer, informing him that the instructions of the King and Company precluded them from negotiating or concluding any treaty of peace or other treaty with any Indian Prince or State, unless in pursuance of express orders from us.

Bombay dated 15 July
Consn 24 Aug

The sentiments contained in Mr Boddam's minute delivered on this occasion coincide so entirely with our own, that we think it proper to transmit a copy of it for your perusal a number in the packet While opinions so consistent with the intentions of the British Legislature, and of our immediate Superiors in England shall influence the conduct of the Company's separate Administrations in India, the public peace rests on the best and safest footing

7th Having observed in the instructions from the Poonah Ministers to Ransor Sinoy, that some intention was declared of obliging Futty Sing to pay his tribute, and to perform services due from him to the Peshwa's Government, we thought it proper to remind your President and Council at Bombay, that the 8th Article of the treaty of Salbey is as explicit with respect to the relation of Futty Sing to the Maratta state, that, if he should not attend to it we could on no account support or defend his disobedience of the just claims of the Peshwa

Consn 24th Aug

8th The troops of Tippoo, after possessing themselves of several petty forts belonging to the Maratta Government, are said to have at length laid siege to Mertteh, the principal fort of the Marattas in the province of Bijapore, it is also reported, that Sindia has been most earnestly entreated to return to Poonah, and that a party of twenty or thirty horsemen, who have lately arrived in his camp, have brought him a formal summons from the Peshwa to that effect, but there is little probability of his compliance with such a summons at this time, nor indeed at any other while his views remain unaccomplished on this side of India, and while Tippoo shall not acquire such a superiority during the war as may endanger the security of the possessions immediately dependant on Sindia's authority His present pursuits, although they promise an indefinite scene of trouble

Mr Anderson's letter dated 8th Sept
Consn 11 Oct

to him have engaged him too deeply to be relinquished with Ease or perhaps with safety and every present appearance indicates his intention to persevere in them. The violence of the rains has, for some time past delayed his Military operations, but he is now taking measures for the accomplishment of his various and extensive schemes. A detachment of about 5 000 horse and foot chiefly composed of the Mogul Jagheerdars, marched a few days ago under the command of Balla Row the brother of Ambajee towards Jeypore. The Rajah of that country having broken all the engagements he had entered into with Sindia last year has had reason to expect this attack and, according to report he has by endeavoring to form alliance with other Rajahs, and by using every other means in his power been diligent in his preparations to resist the Maratta. At present he has but little to fear for though Sindia is highly incensed with his conduct and seems extremely desirous of enforcing his demands against the Rajah yet he is prevented by other circumstances from effectually carrying his intentions into execution. His army is greatly weakened by the various detachments he has had occasion to make from it, and particularly by that sent against Bundelcund under Appa Candey Row and that under Mahomed Beg Humdannio which marched against a refractory Chief in his own dominions to the S W of Gualier entitled the Kotehi Rajah. In neither of these expeditions has his success been in any respect adequate to his preparations. His troops have been so harassed for want of provisions that many of them have been induced to desert and this circumstance has produced other consequences equivalent in effect to a defeat. In setting on foot so many distant expeditions at the same time Sindia seems to have departed from his usual wisdom and policy for whilst he is himself restrained by other objects from commanding in these expeditions in person he can scarcely expect any decided success and the defeat of any of his detachments might involve the ruin of all his schemes.

9th. The object which Sindia appears to have most at heart and in which he is said to have the best prospect of success is as we have acquainted you in former advices the reduction of Allyghur. General Letter dated 31st July. Sensible however of the jealousy which his attack upon a fortress so near the limits of the Vizier's country has excited at Lucknow he is reported to be unwilling to increase that jealousy by proceeding to Allyghur in person. Rumors had reached him (and he had placed confidence in the truth of them) that it was the intention of Nabob Vizier to afford assistance to Jehangur Cawn the Chief commanding at Allyghur [Mirat] and that the Nabob had earnestly recommended the support of Jehangur Cawn to us. We communicated his suspicions to Mr Anderson and at the same time that Sindia declared his entire confidence in our Government he complained of the Vizier's conduct which by the encouragement it afforded to Jehangur Cawn operated to the detriment of his own.

10th. Mr Anderson denied that he possessed any knowledge of the

circumstances reported to him by Sindia, whose apprehensions from the Vizier were certainly not without foundation, for Mr Anderson acquaints us, that the anxiety with which the Government at Lucnow are filled for the fate of Allyghur has not failed by every artifice in his power to propagate a belief of the interest which the English and the Vizier have taken in his cause

11th It is indeed much to be regretted that in the actual situation of Sindia's affairs a due consideration of his own interests had not led him to desist from an undertaking, which as it brings his arms so near the dominions of the Nabob Vizier may involve disagreeable consequences hereafter.

12th An Arzee, or petition has been addressed by Jehangeer Cawn to the Shahzaada soliciting his Royal Highness's interference and the march of your troops to the relieve [*sic*] of Allyghur. The Prince required the advice of Colonel Harper in respect to the answer that should be sent to it. The peculiar situation of Jahangeer Cawn, secretly supported as he is by Shah Allum and encouraged by the Prince, and apparently in a state of rebellion against the Royal Standard, made a correspondence of this nature extremely difficult and dangerous, and Coll Harper was determined to prevent, if possible any answer whatsoever being sent to the Arzee of the Killadar, particularly as he had been informed by Mr Anderson of the idea entertained by Sindia, that the Prince and the Vizier were projecting schemes for the relief of Allyghur. Colonel Harper thought it necessary, in order to prevent any ill effects from such an opinion to make the unequivocal declaration to the Bhaw Buckshey of the falsehood of such reports, at the same time that he made a similar representation to Mr Anderson, so that Mahajee Sindia is now perfectly satisfied on this subject

13th In consequence of a desire expressed by Lieutt Coll Harper to the Bhaw Buckshy, the latter has written in positive terms to the Maratta Chief in Bundlecund, directing that the Marattas should not interfere either as principals or allies in any disputes with the Aumils or troops of the Vizier in his Excellency's districts to the Southward of the Jumna

14th A circumstance, not unconnected with the present subject, has been mentioned by Coll Harper, and merits notice in this letter. It arose in a conversation between Colonel Harper and Narras Pundit, who was at Lucnow with Bhaw Buckshy, and who has succeeded Bhaw Buckshy as the Vakeel of Sindia at the Vizier's Court. The subject of the conversation was the interference of the Marattas in Bundlecund, (a country adjacent to the province of Benares) when speaking of their right to such interference the Vakeel observed, "that their right extended as far as their swords could reach" The remark struck Colonel Harper, and contains an unequivocal avowal of the ambition of the Maratta nation

Mr Anderson's
letter dated
24th Sept
Consn 11 Oct

Lt Col Harper's
letter to the Govr
Genl dated 26th
September
Cons. 11 Octr

Consn 11th Octr

15th. Mahajee Sindia has not been successful in his endeavors to attach the Seiks to his interests but considering the animosities which prevail among themselves he has no reason to dread their making any serious efforts against him. He proposes however to detach a considerable part of his army under the command of Dhaar Baw to the Northward of Delhi to watch their motions. On mentioning this intention to Mr Anderson Sindia observed that he was not forgetful of the obligation he had contracted of preventing the Seiks from attempting any such inroads into the Vizier's dominions as they had made in the last war. The Seiks have at the same time made offers of entering into alliance with the Vizier against the Marattas.

16th. We understand from Mr Anderson that Bhow Bucksly's letters to Sindia have at different times given him very confident hopes of success in prevailing on the Shahzaada to return to the Presence and that Sindia had in consequence remitted a sum of money to his Royal Highness for defraying the necessary expences on this occasion, yet he had not mentioned the subject to Mr Anderson and seemed desirous to effect the point if possible independantly of our interference. It is certain however that the attempts of Bhow Bucksly have been unremitting to prevail on the Prince to quit Lucknow and it required every attention and circumspection in Coll. Harper to defeat the purposes of the Bhow's negotiations which were assisted by some persons about the Prince himself. The best means that could be devised for this effect were to bring about the removal of Baw Bucksly from Lucknow and Colonel Harper succeeded in his endeavors to accomplish this point. Baw Bucksly has taken leave of the Shahzaada and the Vizier and has marched towards the Canjy leaving Narroo Pundit as we have before mentioned at the Court of the Nabob Vizier as the Vakeel of Sindia.

17th. Bhow Bucksly was very desirous to receive a distinguished dismissal from the Vizier and Coll. Harper readily complied with his wishes not only that his departure might be accelerated but because such a distinction would be pleasing to Sindia.

18th. The Governor General has since received a letter from Baw Bucksly replete with expressions of friendship for the English.

19th. The Prince is to appoint a Vakeel in Sindia's camp who will however do nothing without the advice and approbation of Mr Anderson.

20th. Colonel Harper has transmitted to your Governor General a translation of a letter which has been written to the Prince by Hajah Dearam a confidential servant of Shah Allum. The letter is authorized by the Shah's approbation of it as expressed in his own hand writing and asserts that Shah has not adhered to a single article of his engagements with him and that the Shah would therefore that the Shah and his should come to the junction with the support of the Vizier and the English for

C. J. Harper to
the Gov. Genl.
dated 13 Aug
C. J. A. Aug.

the purpose of rescuing him from his present distresses.
 Consn. 24 Aug For a perusal of this letter we beg leave to refer you to our proceedings noted in the margin.

21st. We have received a letter from Major James Browne, who arrived some time ago at the Presidency in vindication of parts of his conduct, which he understood had been objected to while he resided at the Court of Shah Allum. Major Browne's letter supposes three grounds of complaint against himself, and states them to be as follows

1st His being the channel through which his Majesty's demand for tribute was forwarded

2ndly. His not advising Mr. Anderson that such demand was made

3rdly. The inference which appeared to him to have been drawn from this demand being made at the time of his recall.

22nd As your Honble. Court are already in possession of the facts to which Major Browne alludes, we shall not trespass on your time by any comments on his present address. At his request, we forward a copy of his letter a number in the packet of the Intelligence. You will hear from us soon on the subject of Major Browne's conduct at the Court of Delhi

General Letters
 dated 29 Apl &
 21 July last

23rd Major Browne has, in obedience to your orders bearing date the 10th December 1784, transmitted to us his correspondence with the late Governor General, while he officiated as Minister with Shah Allum. He has addressed a letter to your Honble Court, and requested that it may be transmitted to you whenever the copy of his correspondence shall be sent. The correspondence and appendix belonging to it form a volume of such considerable size, that it is not in our power to have it transcribed for the present dispatch but it will be forwarded by the next

24th We had the honor to acquaint you in our General letter by the Swallow, that we had directed our secretary to collect from our consultations all that appeared therein with respect to the proceedings of your late Governor General at Lucnow, and to prepare a distinct Account thereof, which should be transmitted to you by the next sea conveyance; concerning however, that the purpose for which such a narrative may have been required would be better answered by our furnishing you with a complete copy of the correspondence which passed between the late Governor General and the Board during his residence at Lucnow, and being of opinion that no fairer mode could be adopted of laying before you all the proceedings of the late Governor General at that period, we have ordered, that a fair transcript be immediately made of the correspondence and forwarded to you with our next dispatches

25th We have the pleasure to acquaint you, that the sum of one Crore and five Lacs of rupees due from the Vizier's Government to the Company for the Fussellie year 1192 has been completely paid in conformity to his Excellency's agreement with your late Governor General, recorded on our proceedings of the 8th October 1784

26th Lieutt Coll Harper is proceeding with the Vizier and his

Minister to make out the estimate for the ensuing year As he is acquainted with the necessities of Government and entertains a due sense of the protection afforded to the Nabob's dominions by the troops in your service his utmost endeavors will be exerted to make the supplies as considerable as possible and to obtain a sum of ready money to pay off the arrears due to that part of your army which is at present stationed for the security of the Vizier's country

27th. We have good reason to believe that Colonel Harper has been successful in obtaining an accomplishment to the wishes of this Government, that the expense of your troops at Fottyghur should be borne by the Nabob Vizier

28th. A mistake having been inadvertently made by the Assistant to the Accomptant at Lucknow in delivering to the Agent of Gopaul Doss at that place the bills received from the Nabob Vizier for the month of Joyto or June in part of payment of his debt, instead of waiting for those which were to be given in the month of Bhadoon or September Consn. 24 Augt. it was stated to Gopaul Doss a Agent of the Presidency who seeing the error readily agreed to rectify it and accordingly resigned the bills. The Bills for Baudun which formed the most considerable part of the Vizier's payment in liquidation of the amount due from him to the Company for the Fuzellies year 1192 have been in consequence delivered to Gopaul Doss to whom we have assigned them over and we have the satisfaction to acquaint you that the large claim of that banker on the Company is now wholly or very nearly discharged.

29th. The last payment from the Vizier for 1192 consisted as by agreement of Calcutta bills for ten lacs and of bills on Surat for five lacs of rupees. The Calcutta bills have been appropriated in the manner advised in the foregoing paragraph and the bills on Surat have been remitted to the Chief at that place for the relief of your Presidency at Bombay

30 The Nabob Vizier has acquiesced to the claim which has been made on him for the amount paid to Majors Gilpin and Lumsdaine in lieu of contingencies when on command to his dominions as stated to our advices by the ships of last season but he has objected to the admission of the loss which will appear to the accounts of the debt due to Gopaul Doss of Rs. 71,910 1-7 in consequence of the alteration made by your late Governor General in the Batta of Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees and Lucknow Siccas as a charge against him observing that while the 16 Sun Fyzabad Rupees were by assay worse than every species the batta of them from the difference of assay was paid to the Company at the rate of Rs. 5.9 3 but that when Mr Hastings came there and found the Lucknow Siccas to be equal to Fyzabad 16 Sun Siccas he gave orders that they should be taken at par that the loss therefore should not fall upon him as he has paid and still continues to pay the money to the Company at the rate of the Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupee

31 In consequence of this unexpected circumstance on the part

of his Excellency the circumstances have been fully stated to Colonel Harper, who has been directed to explain the justice of the claim to his Excellency's satisfaction, and to acquaint him that we assure ourselves of his acquiescence in demands of this nature, properly and equitably founded.

32 Our desire that the excess paid to the Vizier's brother, the Nabob Saudit Ally Khan, since the reduction of his income, as mentioned in our last advices, should be admitted as a charge in his Excellency's Accounts with the Company having been communicated to him by Lieutt. Coll. Harper the Minister observed, that as this excess had arisen either from negligence in the proper officer to inform your Resident at Benares of the reduced monthly sum, or from his not attending to the information if it was made, and as he had provided such funds only as were necessary to discharge the debt to the Company as settled by Mr Hastings, this addition was totally unexpected, and consequently no sum had been appropriated for the purpose of paying it; we therefore could not think it unjust that Saudit Ally should be made to refund the excess by any mode most agreeable to us and convenient to him. As the justice of the reasoning appeared to us uncontrovertible, we have directed the Resident at Benares to explain the circumstances to Saudit Ally, and to make no further payment to him beyond a moiety of his reduced allowance, until the whole amount of the over payment should have been reimbursed to the Company.

33 You have already been advised of the plan which we have adopted for the relief of the Nabob Muzzuffer Jung, and the settlement of the district of Furruckabad Mr Willes, our Resident at that place, having been in consequence dispatched from Calcutta with letters to his Excellency the Nabob Vizier and his Ministers, as well as to Coll Harper, arrived at Lucnow on the 2nd September but not 'till after Almass Ally Cawn had settled the letting of the Pergunnahs, which we had wished should be given up to Muzzuffer Jung for the Fussellee year 1193, as forming part of the extensive territory possessed by Ahmud Cawn, the father of the present Nabob of Furruckabad A representation having been made by the Vizier and his Ministers, that the revenues would suffer a considerable diminution by immediately reversing what had been so recently settled by Almass Ally Cawn, and that his Excellency's treasury should become responsible to the

Consn. 11 Oct Nabob Muzzuffer Jung for the amount of the revenues of those Pergunnahs, Coll. Harper thought it best to comply with the wishes of his Excellency, more especially as Mr Willes was also of opinion, that, in the present circumstances of things and considering the great public points which Coll. Harper had to settle with the Vizier and his Ministers for the ensuing year, this mode was preferable to insisting on the immediate cession of the districts to Muzzuffer Jung The other points which were to be obtained from the Vizier in our plan for the relief of Furruckabad have been complied with.

34. A petition has been transmitted to us by the Resident at Benares from Raja Mylupnaram, stating that he was in possession of a paper under

the signature of your late Governor General authorizing him to investigate all lands contained in his Zemindarry and make the land holders answerable to him for such lands as have been irregularly obtained or more profitable than the avowed valuation and claiming the exercise of this right in the case of Babo Aussen Sing whose Jagheer as we are informed by Mr Fowke stands in both these predicaments, and who objected to this investigation as well as to two different proposals made to him by the Rajah either to pay him annually the amount of his Jagheer out of his own treasury and resume possession of the lands he now holds or to receive from Aussen Sing annually the excess which the lands should appear to yield on a fair examination.

35 The Raja having, in consequence of this refusal claimed a deduction of 25 000 Rupees on his settlement, the subject has been referred to our decision and in order to enable us to investigate the claim more fully we have desired an attested copy or translation of the paper alluded to under the signature of Mr Hastings to be transmitted to us being of opinion, that if it should appear on the examination which is making into the value of Aussen Sing's Jagheer that the increase of revenue obtained from it arises from his own improvement of the lands it would be a hardship to Aussen Sing and might be productive of a bad effect if he were taxed for such improvement

36 We are concerned to acquaint you that we understand from Mr Fawke that every means which could be taken for the recovery of Baboo Durbeetzy Sing's debt to the Company had been exerted before his death but to no purpose that every enquiry had been made to ascertain whether he died possessed of any property that could be confiscated, but without success and that he had but little reason to entertain hopes of any Mr Fawke has been informed, that we trust to the exertion of his best abilities for the recovery of this balance and that we expect the payment of it.

37 We beg leave to refer you to our proceedings noted in the margin for a perusal of the whole correspondence between your late Governor General and the Resident at Benares during Mr Hastings's continuance beyond the Provinces in the year 1781 which has been transmitted to us by Mr Fawke in obedience to orders of the 20th of May last.

38 We shall now proceed to inform you of such events as have occurred in relation to the Governments of Bombay and Fort St George since the close of our last advice.

39 The circumstances attending the grant made by Shah Allum in prejudice to the rights of the Nabob of Surat your ancient friend and ally have been already stated to you with the representation which we instructed Mr Anderson to make to Shah in this subject. We are now happy to acquaint you that Mr Anderson has procured from the Shah and from Hindia a full and explicit revocation of this grant.^a

Consn.
24 August

Consn.
24 August

General letter
31st July

40. Mr Anderson expresses himself much pleased with the behaviour of Sindia on this occasion, for although that Chief had cause to apprehend the defection of Bappoo Shihdes, who had been long discontented, if he interfeired to procure the revocation of the grant to him, he scrupled not to sacrifice this consideration of embarrassment in his own affairs to his friendship to the Company, every circumstance of Sindia's conduct, on this and other occasions, has impressed Mr Anderson with a conviction, that Sindia's real desire is to preserve the friendship of the English.

41. A letter has lately been transmitted to us by the President and Council at Bombay from their Resident at Broach, acquainting them with the little probability there was of the recovery of the debts due to individuals at Broach, in consequence of the letter from Sindia to his Agent, Goapul Row, on that subject, which appeared vague and totally inadequate to the purpose. The Resident of Broach represented the necessity of prevailing on Sindia to adopt a clear and specific plan for the recovery of the Broach debts, as well as of sending orders to his Aumildars for carrying such plan into immediate and effectual force, orders that would not admit of any prevarication on the subject.

42. Your Honble Court have been advised of the privileges which the Gentlemen at Bombay recommended it to us to obtain as a concession from Sindia to your factory at Broach and of the instructions which we thought proper to give to Mr Anderson on this subject. That Gentleman communicated them in full to Sindia, who, after some delay, assented to all our requisitions, except that which related to wrecks, but required at the same time, that we should agree on our part to some points, which he said were essentially requisite for the good government of the town. These were, that the English Resident should not attempt to protect any of the people of the town, nor otherwise interfere in matters which related to the subjects of the Maratta Government, that we should not insist on the gates being opened after the customary time of shutting them, and that the number of sepoy guards to the factory should not exceed fifty, and should not be paraded in the mornings and evenings, as is customary in our own garrisons. In regard to the wrecks, it was stated to be a right derived from immemorial custom, that they should be the property of the Chief on whose territories they were driven and Sindia continued for some time absolutely to refuse to relinquish it, observing that the mere advantage he might expect to derive from the right was in itself trifling, and could never be put in competition with his desire of encreasing his friendship with the Company, but, that he was unwilling to give up the point, because he would thereby furnish a pretext for all other nations to demand a similar concession, and the Peshwa in particular whose servant he was, would, if he yielded this point from motives of friendship to us, consider himself in an equally strong degree entitled to the indulgence. After much difficulty however, Sindia was at length brought to make the concession,

and everything being settled a draft of mutual agreement³ was presented to Mr Anderson in conformity to the adjustment which had taken place which having been transmitted to us for perusal it met with our entire approbation, but as this paper appeared in some measure deficient in point of form we directed our Secretary to prepare an agreement with Sindia in the spirit of that which he had proposed and agreeing as far as English forms would admit with the actual terms of it. This agreement having been accordingly prepared it received our ratification and was transmitted in duplicate to Mr Anderson in the English and Persian languages to receive the seal and signature of Sindia also one copy will remain with that chief and the other is to be returned to us.

43 A translation of this agreement attends you a number in the packet and as it provides effectually for the discharge of the debts due to Individuals at Broach we have thought it unnecessary to take any further notice of the letter from the Resident at that place than by transmitting a copy of it to Mr Anderson for his information.

44 A reference has lately been made to us by your President and Council at Bombay the subject of a large⁴ amount which
Rs. 294352.10.
Consn. 24 Augt. appears by the Paymaster's Accounts to the Southern Army to have been disbursed to the different commanding officers for secret services presents intelligence &c. The papers transmitted to us on this subject are recorded on our proceedings noted in the margin and our resolutions in consequence will be communicated to you from our public department to which we have referred the consideration of it

45 No advices of any importance have been received from your President and Council at Fort St George since our last dispatches to your Honble Court which acquainted you with the measures that had been adopted by that Government and by ourselves, for carrying into execution your orders of the 9th December last for restoring to his Highness the Nabob Wallaw Jaw the assignment of the revenues of the Carnatic In the same dispatches you were informed of the agreement entered into with his Highness for the due performance of his engagements to the Company Our confidence in the judgement of the administration of Fort St. George and in the justice of the opinion they had formed of the preference that ought to be given to land rather than Soucar Security would not allow us to propose any alteration of their agreement so far as the security was a question but we have enjoined them (if his Highness should fail in the observance of his agreement) to lose no time in acting up to the strict letter and real spirit of your orders by realizing the payments that ought to have been made by his Highness and drawing them from the collection of the courts tries assigned to them in such event and for such purpose

46 As the agreement now entered into is declared to be preliminary to the general treaty which you have ordered to be concluded between the Company the Nabob of Arcot and the Raja of Tanjore for the defence

and protection of the Carnatic both in time of peace and war, on a solid and lasting foundation, and as we were confident, that the sooner every point relating to this treaty was settled, the greater would be your satisfaction, we directed your Servants at Fort St George to adjust the same forthwith agreeable to the orders contained in the 31st, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37 & 38 Pars of your letter to Fort St George bearing date the 9th December 1784, and as the treaty would include objects of essential importance to the British interests in India we desired that our approbation of it might be obtained before it should be executed by the parties concerned in it

Our instructions to your President and Council at Fort St George on this occasion are recorded in the Consultation
 Consn 24th Augt noted in the margin

47 Some days after Lord Macartney had left Calcutta to embark for England in the Swallow, he transmitted to our Secretary a letter which he had received from Mr Davidson at Fort St. George, accompanying two [ad]dresses from Tippoo Sultaun, one for his Lordship and another for Mr. Macpherson, which were opened in presence of the other Members of the Board, and found to be of so mean a sort, that they were rather to be considered as tokens of disrespect than friendship, for which reason the Governor General resolved not to acknowledge the receipt of them, and as they were unaccompanied with any letter from Tippoo himself, we have desired Mr. Davidson to acquaint us in what manner they came into his charge

48. A letter has been lately received by your Governor General from the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn a copy of which goes a number in the packet, and is recorded in the consultation noted in the
 Consn 24 Augt margin It is strongly expressive of his friendship for the Company and of his wish to improve it into a more intimate connexion His Highness is also very desirous that Mr Johnson may be sent back to his Court for the purpose of concluding the treaty which he had proposed to enter into with us for the cession of the Circars, as mentioned in our address of the 17th January last by your Ship Valentine A translation of the draft of the treaty prepared by Mr. Johnson before he left Hyderabad, in conjunction with his Highness Nizam Ally Cawn, and in conformity to his instructions, is recorded on our proceedings
 Consn 24th Augt noted in the margin, and a copy is also transmitted for your information, a number in this packet You are already informed of our ideas relative to the negotiations carried on by Mr. Johnson at Hyderabad

49 It is said that his Highness is in expectation of a summons from the Government of Poonah to take the field in conjunction with them, for the purpose of assisting in the war against Tippoo, and our advices mention, that Madajee Boosla had been kept at Poonah contrary to his inclination for the purpose of taking the field at the opening of the season, and obliged to furnish a body of 5,000 horse, and to pay a subsidy 12 lacs of Rupees in part payment of a debt which he is alledged to owe to the Maratta State.

50 The State of your treasuries is as follows			
Ready Money		Ct	Rs.
Siccaas	42 027-8-11	49 795	16 6
Copper Coin	7 11 040	25 775	3.2
Bencoolen copper coin			
62 mds 0 Sr 12 cha		5 709	4 2
			81 340 0 10
Bills Receivable			
Siccaas	10 00 001		11 00 001 2 8
			<hr/>
		Current Rs	12 41 341 9 0
Balance account deposits		10 98 008.5	
Do Accomptant General to			
the Mayor & Court		1 10 918.3.3	
Do of the Old bonded debt			
on which the Interest has ceased			
by public advertisement		45 117 8.	
New bonded debt at 8 Per Cent		1 57 28 830 11 2	
4 Per Cent remittance Loan		8,50 810 -	
			<hr/>
			1 78,45 720 4 1

We have the Honor to be

Honble Sirs,

Your most faithful humble Servants

John Macpherson/Ro Sloper/

John Stables/Chas Stuart

Fort William

The 20th October 1785

[Per Intelligence]

LETTER DATED 1 NOVEMBER 1785

[Secret Department of Inspection]

TO the Hon ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon ble Sirs

You have been informed by our late advices that previous to the receipt of Your Orders of the 11th April 1785 and before the Dispatch of your Ship Swallow we had determined upon several Reductions in your Civil and Military Expences amounting to the sum of Rs 1,30,129-5. The particulars of these Reductions were detailed to You in our Letter by that Ship.

You have also been acquainted that We afterwards resolved upon other Reductions mostly in the Military Department. The particulars of these will appear to you in a Statement which has been transmitted to us

by the Military Paymaster General making the sum Reduced Amount to 90,35,564

By the same Statement you will find that the amount of Reductions in the same Department produced by your Orders Amounts to Rs 6,33,024 but as in several Instances your Commands have been mixed with the Execution of the Arrangements which we made before our Receipt of them, it is not at present in our power to state with accuracy what will be the extent of the Reductions in our Expences We believe however that the accompanying Statement will be nearly verified by the Event. You will find that by the savings which have been made in the Opium Contract and in that for the future Repair of the Cantonments, and allowing for the saving which we have effected in the Expence of the Nabob Vizier, whose Interests are so nearly connected with those of the Company that any diminution of the Burthens on the Vizier's Government must be considered as a diminution of those on the Company's the whole amount will produce no less a Sum than Current Rs 92,88,028 2 -

The effects must soon operate with particular Force in lessening our present Embarrassments

Fort Wilham,
1st November 1785.
[Per Intelligence]

We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful Humble Servants,
John Macpherson/Ro Slopper/
John Stables/Chas Stuart.

LETTER DATED 1 NOVEMBER 1785

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

Since closing our Dispatch for the Intelligence the Governor General has laid before Us a Letter which he has just received from Lieutt Colonel Harper, dated from Lucnow, on the 25th Ultimo. This Letter and its Enclosures evince the Success of Colonel Harper's Exertions in obtaining from the Vizir and his Ministers a large Fund for the Payment of the Expences expected to be incurred on Account of his Excellency for the present Year 1785/6 or the Fussullie Year 1193, and of the Arrears due for the Futtighur Detachment and other Charges

We are much pleased to have it in our Power to furnish You with this early Proof of the Confidence reposed by the Vizier and his Minister in your present Administration We accordingly transmit you a Copy of Lieutt. Coll Harper's Letter and its Enclosures Numbers in this Packet.

Your Honble. Court will recollect that by the Argument [Agreement] which was concluded between the Vizir and your late Governor General in 1781 his Excellency was relieved from the Payment of the Expences of the Futtyghur Detachment. The Arrears due on Account of that Detachment since January last form a very Considerable Sum and the present Situation of Affairs on our Frontier ill admits the Recall or the Reduction of such Troops. An Engagement therefore from the Vizier to pay not only the Arrears but to continue to discharge the Expence of the Detachment is an important Object and we rely on Coll Harper's Influence with his Excellency and his Minister for preserving them steady and punctual to their Agreement.

Fort William
1st November 1785
[Per Intelligence]

We have the honor to be Honble Sirs
Your Most faithful humble Servants,
John Macpherson/Ro. Sloper/
John Stables/Chas. Stuart

59

LETTER DATED 10 NOVEMBER 1785

Disaffection among Company's native troops—liquidation of arrears of pay in various armies

TO the Honble. the Secret Committee of the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

The Greyhound proceeds to Bussorah and we transmit to the Court of Directors by this Channel of Conveyance Abstracts of our last Advices by the Intelligence Packet which sail'd for England in the Beginning of the Month

Accounts have been lately transmitted to us of the most alarming Tendency from Fort St. George. We had promised an Appropriation of 15 Lacks for that Presidency for the Current Year but this Sum we are informed will not suffice. Some Reductions had been effected in the Military Expences of Fort St. George and the Nabob Wallau Jah had paid the whole of his first Kist before it was due and advanced Money on Account of his second Kist but other Resources had failed the Rajah of Tanjore has been inattentive to his Engagements, and whether we are to attribute the Events we shall recite to the heavy Arrears due to your Army more than to the Intrigues of Hostile Powers, we know not but the Fact is that a Mutiny has hap'ned in three of your Battallions of Native Infantry to the South of the Coleroon. It was quieted by the spirited Conduct of Brigadier General Herpe. We understand that since that Time a Sepoy

Regiment has deserted with its Arms to Tippoo Saib, It is said that a general Disaffection to the Company's Service prevails in the Native Corps This Disaffection may be, and we believe is chiefly owing to the Artifices and Contrivances of your late Enemies in the Carnatic, but it is certainly to be much attributed to the long Arrears due to the Troops, for Troops without Pay, and we will add without Confidence that they ever will receive it, must naturally resort to any Service which is more likely to afford it to them.

A Reference was made to this Government as to the only source from which Relief could be given to the Pressing Exigencies of Fort St George The Occasion called for instant Decision We had previously ordered a Supply of Treasure to be collected for a Remittance to that Presidency We advised your Servants there that it would be sent by the Frances which would sail as soon as the Season should make it safe for her to visit the Corromandel Coast We gave them in the mean Time unlimited authority to draw on this Government for such sums as their Military Wants absolutely required, and we earnestly recommended to them not to reduce their Cavalry, for they had it in Contemplation so to do, and we were decidedly of Opinion that a Material Strength of their Army was in this Corps We fear that they will not be able to procure much Cash for Bills, but they will procure some The Remittance of Cash to Fort St. George by the Frances will be 9 Lacks of Rupees, and this will prove a reasonable Supply but not sufficient for their most urgent Necessities, and we cannot spare more, It is with difficulty that we can spare even this, and the Country feels a Weight of serious distress from the continual Loss of Specie sent out of it.

We had every Reason to believe that if the Arrears due to the Army at Fort St. George were fully liquidated your Affairs there would be relieved Bombay is also in the greatest Distress, and the Arrears in the Bengal Army are very large To devise some means of paying off all Arrears was a necessary, though a most difficult, Service, It would not suffice to put the arrears merely into a Train of liquidation from which they would grow to an Ultimate accumulation of Difficulties, which in the end might not be surmounted. In these Circumstances the Governor General laid before us a Plan for discharging the Arrear Debts of all your Armies in India by the 1st January next, and we have resolved on its adoption We annex a Copy of the Plan to this Letter, for it does not admit of an abstract We assure ourselves of your approbation of it.

We have received formal applications from the Peshwa and Nizam Ally Cawn, and another application from Mahajee Sindia made at the Desire of Nana Furnavese to furnish the allied army with Troops to act in the War against Tippoo Saib We have not yet determined on the Answer that is to be sent to it and have only to assure You that we will by every means in our power avoid involving ourselves in Hostilities

Our Communications will be more full by the Francis The means

offered for the Conveyance of this Letter oblige us to be as concise as possible in our present Dispatch

Fort William
19th November 1785

We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs,
Your most faithful humble Servants,
John Maopherston/Ro Sloper/
John Stables/Chas. Stuart.

60

LETTER DATED 31 DECEMBER 1785

[Foreign Department]

Search of French ship l'Esperance

To Thomas Morton Esqr Secretary to the Hon ble Court of Directors.

Sir

[1] Since the last Address from the Hon ble the Governor General and Council to the Hon ble Court of Directors by the Intelligence a Dispute has happened with the French Agent at Chandernagore in Regard to the Right of visiting and Searching Vessels which may pass the Garrison of Budge Budge the particulars of it will be fully Communicated to the Hon ble Court of Directors by the Rodney now under Dispatch but as it is thought material that the Court should have Information of it as early as possible I have been directed to transmit to you the following Narrative of the Occurrences which gave rise to it, that the same being transmitted to you from the Malabar Coast by way of Bussora, it may have a Chance of reaching England before the Dispatch by the Rodney

[2.] On Sunday the 4th December a French Brig of about 300 Tons Burthen named L'Esperance appeared off the Signal Point below Budge Budge She was coming up the River—she [sic] was boarded agreeably to Custom by the Visiting Officer who was accompanied on this Duty by a Lieut from the Salt Office The Commander wrote the name of the Vessel in the Book of the visiting Officer on the Serang observing that she was a Company's Pilot Vessel The Commander declared that she was a King's Pilot and refused to permit a Search Captain Hearnan who was then acting as Commanding Officer at Budge Budge had some Time before received Information that a French Brig was taking in a Cargo of unlanced Salt at Pondicherry for Bengal and that she might be hourly expected He was misled by this Circumstance by the Contradiction in the Accounts of the Commander and the Serang with respect to her being a King's or Company's Pilot Vessel and by the Fact of the Commander's not having given any Commission to support this Assertion to suspect that she was the Vessel that had been expected with unlanced Salt from Pondicherry

He therefore directed that the Signal ordered for Vessels refusing to be searched should be made to Budge Budge

[3] When the Tide of Flood made on the 5th the Vessel passed the Signal Point and was proceeding up the River but come to an Anchor on a Blank Cartridge being fired and remained at Anchor during the Night, with a small Doney and Salt Vessel alongside the[] which instead of proceeding towards Calcutta returned down the River when the Tide of Ebb made in the Morning This Circumstance Served to strengthen the Relief [Belief] of the Officers at Budge Budge that the *Esperance* was the Vessel expected from the Coast with Salt, which she might easily have transferred to the Doney had she had any on board

[4] On the 6th Captain Kearnan sent an officer on Board the Vessel with a Message in writing acquainting the Committee that if he would permit his hold to be Searched, and if no Salt should be found on Board he would be allowed to pass on answering the usual Questions, and he at the same time sent a Letter to the Commander from the French Agent at Chandernagore, but the Person who carried both was informed that the Captain was gone to Chandernagore and that the officer commanding on board would not receive the Letter She continued at Anchor untill the 7th at 3 O'Clock in the Afternoon

[5] On this day the 7th the Circumstances were laid before the Board, who issued immediate orders to Captain Kearnan to permit the Vessel to pass unsearched if she was a Vessel of War and the Commander bore his Most Christian Majesty's Commission, but before these Orders were received the Commander had again got under Weigh, and a Blank Shot was in Consequence fired from the Guns on the Glasis as a Signal for the Vessel to bring too To this she paid no Attention, and Captain Kearnan in Obedience to the long established Regulations ordered a Shot to be fired at her Rigging, which having had no Effect, he was induced by his Wish to Spare the Lives of his People to fire a Second Shot at the Rigging instead of firing into the Vessel as his first Instructions directed To his great Astonishment this Shot was returned from the Vessel by a Gun loaded with Ball which struck the Water about forty Yards from the Battery In Consequence of this Insult offered to the Garrison two Guns were immediately fired into the Vessel, upon which she came to an anchor and Struck her Ensign and Pendant, and the Captain coming on Shore made a formal Tender of her Surrender to Captain Kearnan informing him that he had taken out all his People and would proceed immediately to Chandernagore Captain Kearnan refused to take Charge of the Vessel saying that his sole Intention in bringing her too was to search for Salt

[6] At this Period and not before the Captain produced a Commission from Mr. Dangereux, dated as Captain Kearnan believes on the 7th of December, three Days after the Vessel had been first stopped, appointing him to the Commander of the "*Corvette du Roi L'Esperance* Pilots" and a Paper of Instructions from the same Gentleman directing him to act as he had done He at the same Time acquainted Captain Kearnan that a

Native of Bengal had been mortally wounded by one of the Shot from the Garrison. The wounded man was afterwards brought on Shore and the Commander of Budge Budge gave orders for his being dressed by the Garrison Surgeon but the Persons who came with him insisted on carrying him away with them immediately after and it is supposed that the man must have died on the same Night

[7] On the 9th of December the Commander of the Corvette acquainted Captain Kearnan that he meant to remove his People with their Cloths and Provisions and to abandon the Vessel and desired a Certificate that he had given Intimation of his Intention to do so but to this no other Reply was made them [than] a verbal Reference to the Board. The same Evening some Europeans and Lascars belonging to the Brig passed the Fort in two Passways and on the 10th Captain Kearnan having put Lt. Exshaw of the Artillery on board the Vessel on the Receipt of a Letter from the Secretary written by the directions of the Governor General and Council in which he was supposed to have ascertained whether she had salt or not that Officer found her totally deserted and her Hold closely locked and barred and he did not think himself authorized to open them.

The Vessel as it is understood has since been lost

[8] Mr Daogoreux had Complained to the Governor General and Council of the Conduct of the Commanding Officer of Budge Budge on the 7th and the orders already alluded to had been immediately sent to Captain Kearnan to permit the Corvette to pass unsearched if she was a Vessel of War and the Commander bore his most Christian Majesty's Command

[9] As soon as the Event was known to Mr Daogoreux he protested in very intemperate Language against the Ostrage (as he termed it) offered to his most Christian Majesty's Flag and the formal Infraction of the Treaty concluded between the Courts of Versailles and London' holding the Governor General and Council responsible for the Corvette L Esperance and for the Insult offered to the French flag

[10] These Circumstances and a wish to counteract the aim of the French Agent and to divest him of all Pretence for Charges which he might be desirous to establish against this Government induced the Board to assure Mr Dangeroux that they should ever be solicitous to act up to the Principles and Declarations contained in their Letter of the 20th of October by which they disclaimed any Intention of stopping or examining French Ships of War and as he declared the L Esperance to have been in the Service of his Most Christian Majesty and Commissioned under his Royal Authority they offered to replace her and to defray the Expenses which might have been occasioned by her loss expressing at the same Time Regret for the Accident which had happened and which could not possibly be attributed to them as an Infraction of the Treaty [of] peace had their Orders of the 7th arrived in Time at Budge Budge the misunderstanding must have been prevented A Copy of the Letter written to Mr Dangeroux on this occasion is enclosed.

[11] Mr Dangeroux has acknowledged the Receipt of this Letter

and has expressed himself Sensible of the Disposition which has been shewn to yield to the Right which it possesses to the French Nation, but as he had transmitted to the Governor General at Pondicherry a Copy of his Protest and act of Relinquishing of the Vessel at the same Time that he sent them to this Government he does not think himself at Liberty to decide any thing in Regard to the proffered Restitution until he shall have received Instructions from Pondicherry

[12] The Representations and Narratives of the Officers at Budge Budge of the Circumstances which attended the affan of the Corvette L'Esperance have been supported by affidavits before one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and they will be transmitted to the Hon'ble Court of Directors by the Rodney

[13] A Wish to prevent a Repetition of the Remonstrances which have been made to the Board against the present Usage of visiting the ships of all Nations before they pass the Tents on the Banks of this River, and at the same Time they do not concede the inherent Right of Government to accommodate the Exercise of it as far as possible to the Convenience of Foreign Nations and by so doing to prevent any just Grounds of Complaint in future have induced the Governor General and Council to revise the Regulations which have been long in use, and to adopt a New Sett of Regulations¹ for the Guidance of the Officer Commanding at Budge Budge in Regard to all Ships and Vessels passing that Garrison whether under English or Foreign Colours, By which all former Regulations not expressly repeated have been cancelled and revoked A Copy of these is herewith enclosed for the Information of the Hon'ble Court of Directors and it is hoped that they will effectually prevent all future Complaints from the French or any other Nation, tho' they reserve those Powers of Government relative to the Navigation of the Ganges which are absolutely necessary to secure the Peace of these Provinces as well as their Revenues, Powers which may at any Time be exercised as Occasion may require

Fort William,
31 December 1785

I have the Honor to be Sir,
Your most Obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) E Hay
Secretary

LETTER DATED 9 JANUARY 1786

State of finances at Fort St George—instructions to Malet—relations between French and Tipu—treaty with Nizam—Sindia's movements—rumours of Abdal's invasion—Sindia's claim to the title of Vakil-i-Mutlaq

Native of Bengal had been mortally wounded by one of the Shot from the Garrison. The wounded man was afterwards brought on Shore and the Commander at Budge Budge gave orders for his being dressed by the Garrison Surgeon but the Persons who came with him insisted on carrying him away with them immediately after and it is supposed that the man must have died on the same Night

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State of finances at Fort St George—instructions to Malet—relations between French and Tipu—treaty with Nizam—Sindia's movements—rumours of Abdali's invasion—Sindia's claim to the title of Vakil-i-Mutlaq

To the Honourable Court of Directors.

Hon'ble Sirs

1 We have the Honor to transmit to you by your Ship Rodney n Broken sett of our proceedings in this Department commencing from the 25th October to which period they were transmitted by the Intelligence and ending on the 29th Ultimo An Index accompanies them

2 As the Commander of the Intelligence had our Directions to call at Fort Saint George for the purpose of conveying to you such Information as the Gentlemen in the Administration of your affairs at that Presidency might have to communicate you will have been informed before these Dispatches can reach you of the Embarrassments under which they laboured in Consequence of the Inadequacy of their resources to the Liquidation of the Demands upon their Treasury It is our Duty to relate to you the Measures which we thought it incumbent on us to adopt for their relief

3 About the beginning of November Mr Oakes the Confidential Secretary of Mr Davidson your Governor of Fort Saint George arrived in Bengal with Dispatches from that Government which bore Date the 20th of September and 1st of October The former advised us of the reductions which had been made in the Military Establishment of that Presidency amounting in the whole to Pagodas 270447 2 4 per annum These Reductions however were so short of the relief necessary to their Embarrassments that they had it in Contemplation to dismount their Cavalry as an unavoidable measure as well as to stop every Payment to the Paymaster of his Majesty's Forces and every advance on Account of the Investment unless we should grant them a more extensive Aid than that which was promised in our Letter of the 26th July Vizt Fifteen Lacks of Rupees to be remitted to them between the 1st May last and the 30th April ensuing

4 The Dispatches of the 1st October contained Intelligence still more serious and very alarming They advised us of a Mutiny which had happened in Three Battalions of Native Infantry to the southward of the Coleroon on Account of the Arrears due to them This was quelled by the prudent and spirited Conduct of General Horne but your Servants at Fort Saint George had too much Reason to apprehend that a general Disaffection to the Company's Service existed in all the Native Corps on that Establishment

5 We delayed not a Moment in conveying our assurances to the Gentlemen at Fort Saint George that the Means and Efforts of this Government should be exerted to the utmost for the relief of their actual necessities and that we should remit to them a supply of Treasure by your Ship Francis but if their Distress should make a supply of Cash indispensable before the Arrival of the Francis at Fort Saint George we gave them our permission to draw on us for such Amounts as might be absolutely necessary for their Military Charges and for such Charges exclusively

recommending to them in the strongest Terms to allow no Consideration in future to induce them to give up so essential and necessary a part of their Military Strength as the Corps of Cavalry, which in Time of Disturbance and in Time of War we deemed the most useful Corps on their Establishment

6 These Orders and assurances were immediately transmitted to Fort Saint George are [*sic*] afterwards took into our Consideration the real state of the Finances of that Presidency and the measures which appeared well calculated to secure your Interests in the Carnatic against the Calamities which seemed to be impending over them On the 8th November your Governor General submitted to us a plan which he had Arranged for the entire Liquidation of the Arrears due to the Troops in India The object was of the first Importance, and the plan received our unanimous Concurrence, as being more eligible than any that could be suggested in the present State of our Finances and as presenting a fair prospect of success in its Accomplishment A Copy of the plan and of the Governor General's Minute which introduced it to our Notice have already been transmitted to you by the way of Bussora and a second Copy now attends you a number in the Rodney's packet

7 We had frequently had Occasion to regret the Inattention of your Government at Fort Saint George to our repeated Applications to them for Statements of their Resources and Disbursements, and of their Civil and Military Debts as well as Estimates of the Funds which might enable them to provide for the Current Demands on their Treasury. The Papers which were laid before us by Mr Oakes supplied this necessary Information and were clear, distinct, and satisfactory
 Cons 14 Novr They are recorded in our Proceedings of the 14th November and merit your particular Attention From these it appeared that the suspension of every Payment at our Treasury for as long a Period our pressing Emergencies could admit would not supply a Fund sufficient to discharge the Arrears of their Army or even to satisfy the Murmurs of the Troops

8 Under these Circumstances we think that the plan which we have adopted cannot fail to meet with your approbation In order to enable the Government of Fort Saint George to carry it into Execution we resolved upon sending them a supply of Nine Lacks of Rupees in specie as soon as the Coast could be visited without Danger from the Change of the Monsoon Four Lacks and Fifty Thousand Rupees of this sum were remitted by the Francis and Four Lacks of Rupees have been lately remitted by the Admiral Hughes

9 As this supply to Fort Saint George could only serve to assure the Army that every resource in the Power of this Government is understood to be justly bound for the Payment of all the Arrears of the Company's Troops in whatever Quarter and as it appeared to us that we ought to give the strongest Warrant in our power for the security and total Liquidation of them, we had it in Contemplation to depute a Servant or Servants of the

This Para. to be altered as it is all wrong.

the Embarrassments of your affairs and as the plan as it professed was not confined to Fort Saint George alone, but was meant to extend in its Operations to the Troops on the Establishment of Bombay also a Copy of It was transmitted to that Presidency with Instructions similar to those which were given to the Gentlemen at Fort Saint George. As we had understood that those Officers of the Company who had survived their Imprisonment in the Dominions of Tippoo Saheb had received only the Arrears of Pay and not of Batta which had accrued during their Confinement and as we considered the Payment of both to be an Act of humane and political Justice we directed that a provision should be made for the Liquidation of these Claims in the Accomplishment of the Governor General's plan for paying off the Arrears to the Troops in India. The sum cannot be considerable nor in any light can it be put in competition with the Justice due from a great and Liberal notion to the sufferers of unexampled misery and cruel Indignity in their Service. The just Retribution which the Force of their Country could not obtain for them by Punishing the authors of the oppression was necessarily suspended as a sacrifice to the Publick Repose. But the want of such Retribution rendered another consideration of their Calamities an absolute Duty of this Government. We have discharged it and are sure of anticipating your applause for the measure.

17 † You have been informed by our advices of the 31st July last of the Arrival of Mr Mallet in Sindia's Camp and of the Instructions which we had given to him to repair to the Presidency to wait our further Orders.

18 Mr Malet reached Calcutta on the 18th of October and on the 6th November he addressed a Letter to us soliciting our attention to the completion of his Appointment as Resident at Poona.

19 The Expediency of such an Appointment was evident and the principal objection which had occurred to it and which had till now prevented us from carrying our Original Intentions into Execution Vizt the Dugest which it might give to Malajee Sinha who had been taught to consider himself as the sole Agent in every negotiation between this Government and the Poona Durbar had been with some difficulty removed by Mr Anderson who had obtained Sindia's Acquiescence in our Appointment of an immediate Agent with the Peshwa.

20 This Acquiescence indeed did not appear to be given with that Cheerfulness which we could have wished but the political Situation of the Principal Native powers in Hindostan and the Residence of an agent on the part of the Government of Pondicherry at the Poona Durbar rendered it advisable that we should have a Minister there also for the purpose of preserving and improving to the utmost that good understanding which it is so much the Company's Interest at this Juncture to preserve with the Maratta State. We therefore came to a Resolution on the 7th

† Wrong numbering of paragraphs from here onwards is apparently due to a clerical error

Ultimo to Delay no longer the Completion of Mr Malet's Appointment leaving it however at the option of the Peshwa, on Mr Malet's arrival at Bombay, to invite him to Poona or not as he might judge proper, and in order to remove every Ground of Jealousy on this Account on the part of Mahajee Sindia, We have Resolved that Mr Malet's Correspondence with this Government shall pass thro' the Channel of Mr Anderson and we have acquainted Mr Malet at the same Time that in all his Conferences with the Poona Ministers and on all other proper Occasion he was to declare and adopt one leading Rule for his Conduct, Vizt that as Mahajee Sindia is the sincere and approved friend of the English Nation and as he is the Guarantee of that peace which has produced Tranquillity to the Affairs of the Company and Maratta Government he must always be considered as the Guarrantee of our Connection with the Marattas

21. These were our general Instructions to Mr Malet. The more particular and immediate objects which we recommended to his Notice were to the utmost of his ability to ascertain and defeat any Views which might appear in the French or other European Powers unfriendly to the Interest of Great Britain, To discover the Views and dispositions of the different Members of the Poona Ministry, to learn and advise us of their Sentiments on the Acquisition of the Office of Vakeel Ul Mutluk, and whether there be any Prospect of its being used to an Extention of the Marratta Power over the future Grants of the King and to discover the Intrigues of Chyte Sing and the Disposition of the Ministers towards him, as well as how far they had any Views in the Provinces of Allahabad and Corah in Consequence of the former Royal Grants in their Favor.

22 He was also generally advised of our desire to be well and accurately informed of the Circumstances of all the Rajahs who are Subject either in Fact or in Form to the Controul of the Marratta Government, the Extent of their Territories and the Revenues they can command, their Dispositions to the Poona Government and their Relations whether by consanguinity or private Compact to each other of the Revenues and possible Resources of the Poona Ministers of the Number of disciplined Troops in their Employ whether Horse or Foot, and the means which they possess of defraying the Expence of any and what Number of the Company's Troops in the Event, merely possible of our being at any Time required from Considerations of our own safety to allow them the use of them.

23. A Copy of our Instructions at large to Mr Mallet attends you a Number in the Packet.

24 We have the pleasure to acquaint you that Mahajee Sindia is now as desirous of Mr Mallet's Appointment as he had ever before been averse to it, and that his Sentiments were received upon this point by Lieutenant Anderson before he could have had any information of our Resolution for Mr Malet's proceeding to the West Coast the Correspondence between Scindia and the Governor General on the Subject of Mr Malet's Deputation together with Scindia's claim from the applications recently

made to him by the Peshwa will explain to you fully the change in Sindia's Sentiments relative to Mr Malet's appointment

25 We have kept your Honourable Court regularly and fully advised of the motions of the Marrattas and of the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn and Tippoo Sultan as well as of the Applications which had been made to us by the Administration of Poona through Mahajee Sindia for assistance against Tippoo

26 Since our last Advices these have been repeated in an Application from Nana Furnavese to Sindia transmitted to us by Lieutenant Cons 22d Novr Anderson in which Nana Asserts that Four Thousand Europeans and Ten Thousand Sepoys on the part of the French are with Tippoo prepared and ready for his Alliance, and that it is therefore incumbent on us either to assist the Marrattas or to prevent the French from giving Aid to Tipoo about the same time that this Letter reached us a Vakcei on the part of the Peshwa arrived in Calcutta and delivered to the Governor General Letters from the Administration at Poona desiring that five Regiments might be sent to Poona and five others to the assistance of the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn from whom a similar application was received at the same period

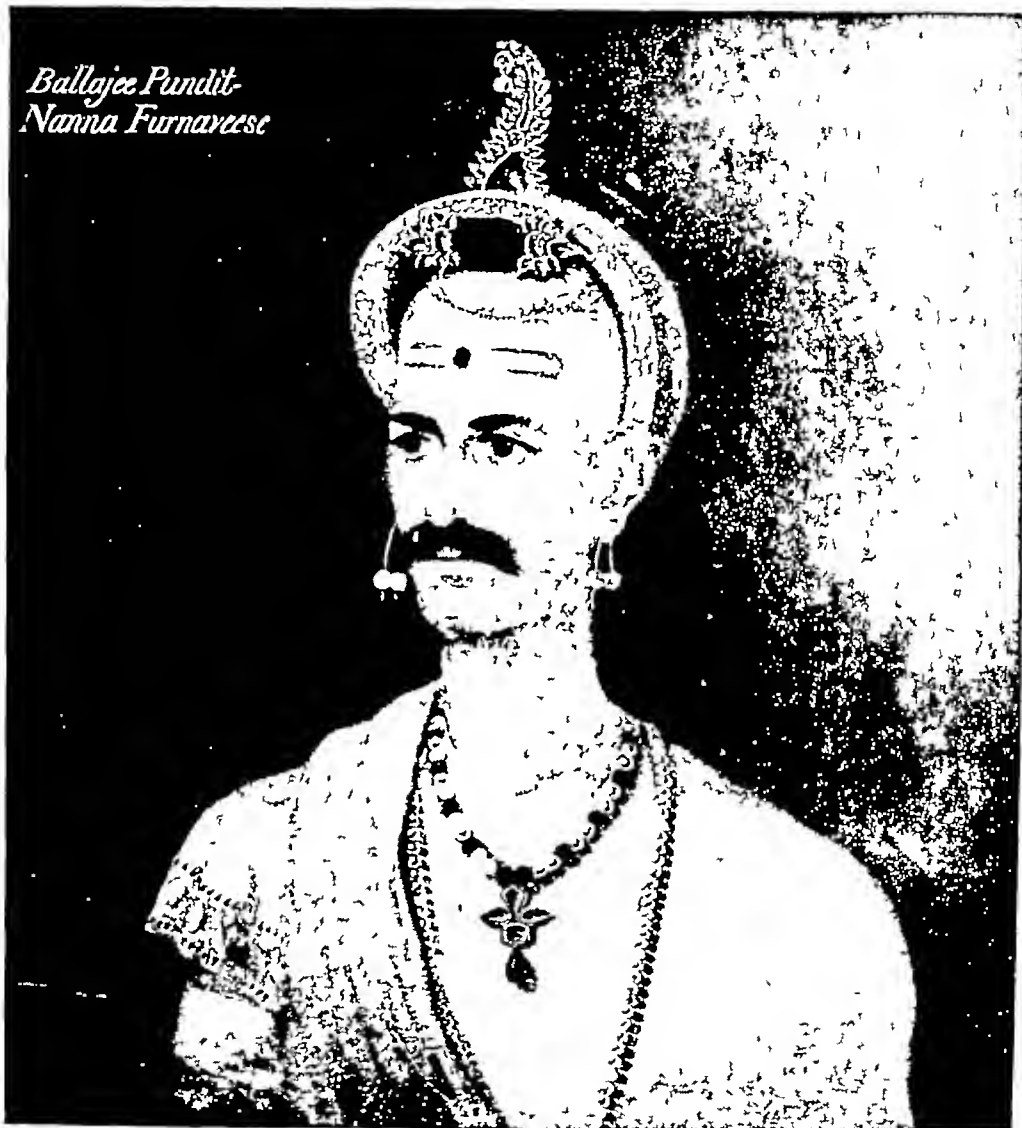
27 Sindia has also lately addressed a Letter to the Governor General a Translation of which attends you a number in the Packet containing an application for a Body of Troops to be furnished from Bombay to act on the Defensive against Tippoo in Consequence of its having been suggested to him by Mr Anderson that there was a probability of our attending to any request which extended no further as he was certain that from Motives of Friendship as well from Principle of Interest we should not wish to see the Marratta Government oppressed

28 Mr Anderson thinks however that Sindia Considering the Peace which has been established between the Company and Tippoo and the General Pacific System which we wish to maintain in Hindostan is not very sanguine in his hopes of Success from this Application

29 But he afterwards repeated it to Mr Anderson observing that in his Solicitation of Aid his object was merely the favorable Effect which he expected from a public Proclamation of your Friendship and the Employment of it any Act of Hostility which he might involve you in a war with Tipoo

30 It has been our constant System in all our Transactions with the Country Powers to raise the jealousy of none of them by our negotiation or by views Hostile to their particular Interests to obtain perfect Intelligence of their Designs and to let them severally and unitedly feel that tho' we wish not to be parties in their own internal Disputes we are determined to maintain preponderating Influence in whatever scale we may think it just to throw the force of our aid There is our object but if the Peshwa Tippoo Sultan or Nizam Ally Cawn should enter in engagements with France Hostile to our Interests we must then take a decided Line in order to counteract such Engagements and to maintain the Security of

*Ballogjee Pundit-
Nanna Furnavese*



Nana Phadnavis

these Provinces at every Hazard, for there is certainly a point beyond which a pacific System, however desuable, cannot be pursued to the attainment of any permanent Security At present we hope that the Period when we may be called on to, make such Exertions is very distant, for by the Information which has been received by the Governor General it appeared that Tippoo's Negotiations with the Visconte de Souillac founded on their late Treaty have been broken off, and that the former has refused to comply with the Condition of his Engagements with France This Event has induced the administration of Pondicherry to Apply to Nizam Ally Cawn and to the Marrattas to form closer Connections with them and two Vessels were dispatched to France in October to announce to the Court of Versailles the Conduct of Tippoo and the state of the French Negotiations

31 The Violence of Tippoo towards his own people, his Alarm from the Intrigues and Design of the French in their offers of Assistance, and the Accounts he had of the Negotiations of the French Minister at Poona were the causes of the Differences between him and the Government of Pondicherry A Treaty had been formally concluded between the French and Tippoo, and the Marratta Vakeel¹ in the Beginning of October last publicly accused the French Governor General at Pondicherry of a Breach of Faith to the Marrattas in having made a particular Treaty with Tippoo contrary to the promises of *the King of France to the Peshwa* The Visconte de Souillac disavowed the Treaty, but it appears by Nana Furnavese's application to us thro' Sindia, that the Peshwa had actual Information of the Conclusion of it

32 The Application made by the Visconte de Souillac to the Court of Hyderabad for a renewal of the Friendship which formerly subsisted between the French and the Soubahdar of Deccan has been referred to the Court of Poona and Tippoo is said to be involved in some internal Commotions in his own Country excited by the Marrattas, which have impeded his progress to the Kistna for the purpose of Punishing Nizam Ally Cawn for the perfidy with which he is charged during the late War.

33 If the enclosed Paper of Intelligence be, as we believe it is, to be depended on, the Views of the French are very apparent It declares their Readiness to join the Marrattas with a considerable Force, whenever the latter shall break the Treaty with the English Government

34 In this General position of Affairs we have two great Lines of Policy established for our Guidance Vizt the necessity of watching the Conduct of France, and of maintaining as long as possible that system of Tranquillity which leaves the Country States to their own Convulsions, but as it is not impossible that some of the Cases supposed in the following Questions may eventually occur we think it incumbent on us to desire your positive Instructions to serve as a rule for our Guidance, and to request your early communication of them

1st If France not only unites by Treaty but sends actual Force to the Aid of either the Marrattas or Tippoo ought we to assist the Opposite Party?

2d. How far ought we to interfere in the event of Tippoo's Success against the Marrattas or theirs against him to preserve a Balance between the two Powers ?

3d. Should we endeavour at the Risk of a rupture with Sindia to unite with the Courts of Poona or Berar to break an Union which under the Mogul Sanction may become too formidable ?

4th. How far should the Shah Zadda be supported in the event of a rupture with Sindia who would of course act under the supposed authority of the Mogul now in his hands. In other words might not the Shah Zadda in such a case be declared by us the only legal Representative of his Father ?

5th. In the Event of a Convulsion in Tippoo's Government should we permit the Marrattas to establish their power completely over his Dominions in the Neighbourhood of the Carnatic ? and

6thly. In the Event of Tippoo's getting possession of the Guntoor Circar and pressing Nizam Ally too hard should we or should we not give the latter effectual and immediate Aid ?

We have yet another Question to submit to you

Should Timur Shah Abdalla march into Hindostan^s as is generally believed to be his present Intention founded on an Invitation from Shaw Allum who is impatient of his Restraints under Mahajee Sindia and distrustful of receiving any support from the Company what line should we take in the Contests that will ensue between the Hindoo and Mogull Powers or are we to take any. You will see the complimentary Letters of Timur Shaw to the Governor General in the Persian Correspondence. They are of an old date tho' but lately received

35 Your Answer to these Questions will serve to point out to us the Line of our Duty in a political View. In every difficulty in which we can at present foresee a probability of our being involved

36 Your Directions upon these Subjects will receive their bias from the views which other European Powers are supposed to have in this part of the world as well as for System which Great Britain has resolved on adopting relative to India

37 We have lately been strongly urged by Nizam Ally Cawn to Attend to the Completion of the Treaty which had been negotiated with him by Mr. Richard Johnson who has also addressed to us several Letters on this Subject and on that of the Assistance required by the Marrattas Coast and Nizam Ally Cawn against Tippoo Sultan. To these we beg leave to refer they are recorded on our Proceedings noted in the margin

38 The Nizam has received our general assurances founded on the Treaty concluded with him that we will not fail to do every thing which the rules of Friendship and Alliance may dictate in his support should the French or any other European Nation take the Field in Conjunction with his Highness's Enemies and that we shall Communicate to him your Determination on the new Treaty proposed to be entered into with him as

soon as we may receive it. He has also been informed that this may be now shortly expected, as the propositions sent by Mr. Johnson from Hyderabad went home before Mr Hastings, of whose arrival in England we have had Accounts, and who left Bengal desirous to bring them before you for your Determination

39. In Order that we may be fully informed of the Transactions at the Court of Hyderabad, we have come to a determination to depute thither a very intelligent Native named Meei Muhamed Hussugn who was once in England with Mr Elliott and who accompanied Mr Johnson in his late Residency and is strongly recommended to us by that Gentleman, Meer Mahamed Hussugn will take with him a Letter to the Peshwa and Nana Furnaviese in Reply to their Solicitation for Military Aid Their Letters containing this Solicitation came thro' the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn, and were founded on the Proposed Treaty between his Highness and the Company. The Answer to them declares therefore our Intention to wait your Decision on this Treaty and announces our Readiness to fulfill every Duty of Friendship consistently with the Treaties now in Force

40. Our Advices from Hydiabad appear to the Period of our Record of them in the Consultation noted in the Margin The rest are transmitted to you Nos in the Packet

41. Intelligence received in Sindias Camp bearing Date at the latter End of November acquaints us that, amidst great Preparations for War, Peace Negotiations were going on, and that Tippoo was labouring to prevent Nana from having his intended Interview with Nizam Ally Cawn.

42 Our late Arrangements will produce to us regular and full Advices of the Matérial Occurrences at Poona, Hyderabad, and Probably at Seringa Patnam, and as it is of Consequence to Your Interests to remove every suspicion from the mind of Tippoo, and to reconcile him to our Deputation of Mr Malet to Poona, the Governor General has availed himself of the Opportunity which has been afforded him of Opening a Correspondence with Tippoo in Consequence of a Reference which has been made to us by your President and Council at Bombay on the Subject of your

Commands to that Presidency under date the 27th January 1785. These Commands relate to the unhappy sufferers who were made Prisoners during the War, and are still supposed to be in

Cons. 8 Novr
Cons 22 Novr,
29 Decr

Confinement a Copy of the Governor General's Letter to Tippoo on this occasion attends you a number in the Packet It was transmitted by General Carnac who will

have an opportunity of Obtaining Intelligence at Goa that may be of the greatest use in the present Crisis Goa is center of information from Poona, Seringapatam and the French Islands, and is the Part at which any Agents from France to the Country States in the west of India will probably land General Carnac from his knowledge in the European and Native languages and his zeal for your Service is well qualified to a Residence in such a situation and he has received private Instructions from the Governor General for his Conduct

43 We beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for a perusal of the late letters which we have received from our Resident with Mohajee Sindia you will observe from Mr Anderson's Letter of the 24th November that Sindia has at Length obtained a Completion of his ostensible objects on our Frontier by the Surrender of Alligur The Terms which were granted to Jehangeer Cawn the Killedar were that he should retain possession of all his private property and that a particular Jaghire in the Districts of Coel of about 50 000 Rupees annually should be granted to him he was not however to have the possession of any Fort and It was also stipulated that he should repair to Comp to give an Account of all the property belonging to the late Ameer ul Omrah Afrasah Cawn. Mr Anderson thinks that Sindia has been disappointed in his Expectation of the amount of it as no report has gone abroad of any Treasure having been found in Allighur and the Silence of public Fame on such an Occasion might be construed into a proof that there was none Such Matters do not easily admit of Concealment and would most probably have been exaggerated on the other extreme had there been any grounds for it

44 It was particularly stipulated in the Agreement with Jehangeer Cawn that he should first repair to Sindia's Camp and then proceed to Mursaan to take Possession of the small Territory assigned to him but in open Violation of the Faith which Sindia had pledged to him and without any regard to the solemn Engagements by which he had bound himself to protect Jehangeer Cawn he has thought proper to put him under Confinement and has sent Orders for the Imprisonment of all his Family As Sindia had no pretext for this Proceeding in any Impropriety of Conduct on the part of Jehangeer Cawn subsequent to the Agreement he was obliged to have Recourse to Shaw Allum who gave him positive Orders to imprison Jehangeer Cawn on Pretence of his Concealment of some Jewells belonging to the Shaw which had been entrusted to Nudjef Cawn and afterwards given in Charge to Afrasah who deposited them in the Fort of Allyghur

45 The Motives for this Act of Violence on the part of Sindia are stated in Mr Anderson's Letter of the 10th Ultimo which attends you a No in the Packet Nudjef Cawn and Afrasah while they had the management of Shaw's affairs were always in distress and there is little reason to think that any of them left hidden treasures. Sindia who must know these facts has evidently some object of Policy and not of Resentment against the supposed concealment of Treasure for his present Breach of Faith to Jehangeer Cawn The Circumstance is only of Consequence to us as it shews his inattention to solemn Engagements

46 Sindia will now possibly find it necessary to proceed to Delhi to repel the expected incursions of the Turks and to check the insurgent Rajas in the Neighbourhood of Malwa altho he appears afraid to any Movement to that Quarters may prejudice his Negotiations with the Raja of Jeypore A Battalion of his Nephews has lately quitted his Service and entered the Territories of the Nabob Vizier to whom the Commandant

has addressed an Arzee Stating that the Battalion had formerly deserted under another Officer from his Excellency to Nudjiff Cawn and that he had taken the earliest Opportunity to return to his Duty

47 Sindia expressed some uneasiness at the Desertion of this Corps and applied thro' Lieutenant Anderson to Colonel Harper to obtain the Restitution of it with its Guns and Firelocks, but the Vizier shewed little Disposition to comply with the Request We direct Colonel Harper to use his Influence with his Excellency to dissuade him from receiving the Battalion into his Service, and to prevail on him to recommend their Return to Sindia on a promise obtained by Lieutenant Anderson of their full and entire Pardon if they should be disposed to go back to him but at all Events the Colonel has been desired to prevail on the Vizier to cause the Guns and Firelocks to be returned to Scindia, in proof of the Friendship and good understanding which subsist between his Excellency and that Chief

48 A Victory has been obtained by Appa Candy now Sindias Commander in Bundelcaund, which has put him in possession of the City of Jumna Purna This was an unexpected Instance of good Fortune and a Subject of great Rejoycing as orders had been actually sent to Appa Candy Row, who had been involved in much Distress to conclude a Treaty upon any Terms he could procure and return with his Detachment to Gwalier It is not however imagined that Sindia's present Situation will admit of his affording so large a division of his Troops as would be requisite for the total Reduction of Bundelcaund, and we should be much concerned to see just grounds for the Apprehension of such an event

49 Timur Shaw Abdalla has been making great warlike Preparations and is said to have advanced near the River Attock This has given rise to a Report very prevalent in Sindia's Camp of the Abdalla's Intention to march into Hindostan, and altho' there is some Reason to believe that his Preparations are directed against Azad Cawn, his former Governor of Cashmeer, who has rebelled and assumed the Sovereignty of that Province, We are not unfounded in a Surmise that he has been invited into Hindostan by Shaw Allum, who impatient of his Subjection to Sindia's Authority is earnestly desirous to be released from it So prevalent is the Belief of Timur Shaw's design to move into Hindostan that several Merchants have made preparation to quit it Mr Anderson however thinks that such an event is extremely improbable both because of the great Difficulties which must arise to the Execution of this Plan from the established Power of the Seiks in Lahore with whom it is necessary that the Abdalla should first either fight or make Peace and because the Reduction of Cashmeer is in Mr Anderson's Opinion a much more probable Cause of his Preparations than so inadequate and fruitless an object as that which the Reports in Sindia's Camp, heighthened by the fears of the People, have assigned for it Certain however it is that the Rumour has had some Effect upon Sindia, and that he has particularly enjoined Duhar Row, his General to the Northward to use every means in his power to procure Authentic Information concerning it

50 Mahajee Sindia has lately had a new Seal cut in which he is stiled Vakeel ul Mntluck in Virtue of his being the Naih of the Peshwa and not as formerly in his own Right We mention this merely as matter of Intelligence We are informed by the Governor General that Sindia has been extremely anxious through his vakeel to prevail on the Governor General to neknowledge Sindia's Letter on the Subject of his receiving the Titlo of Vakeel ul Mutluck and to send it a clear Answer The Governor informed him thnt such an Answer was unnecessary and could not well be given first because he had declined as Governor General the Titles which Shnw Allnm offered him and secondly because he had long admired Sindia for his moderation in calling himself only Pateel (which signifies the head of a Village) tho the first Officer in the Marratta State The Governor General added that the Shawzadda who when absnt from Court has legally all the Powers of the Mogul Government had offered him Higher Titles than those even of Sindia but we could not receive them without Powers and permission from his own Sovereign in England The Vakeel wrote the Particulars of this Conversation to Sindia and that the Answer would finish the disputonnd satisfy the curiosity of his master

51 We have already advised you of the Agreement which we had in Contemplation to conclude with Mahajee Sindia in regard to the Priveleges to be allowed to the English Factory at Broach but the Gentlemen in the Administration at Bombay having advised Mr Anderson
 Consn. 22nd Novr that the Company never made up any regular Annual Investment at Broach and having expressed their wish that they might be at Liberty to export at any future period such Investment as they might think it necessary to make up he has informed us that he has not the most distant Hope that Sindia would agree to this proposition and has therefore delayed mentioning it to him We in Consequence desired the gentlemen at Bombay to be particular in specifying the Investment to be sent Home annually from Broach and the Agreement with Sindia remained suspended till Mr Anderson should have been furnished with their Communication on this Subj et which have lately been transmitted to him The Amount which they wish to be allowed a privilege of exporting annually is Eight Hundred Surat Candies of Cotton and Piece Goods to the value or prime Cost of one Hundred and fifty Thousand Rupees and we doubt not but Sindia will consent to the Insertion of this Quantity in the Agreement.

52 An Application having been made to Mr Anderson by Mahajee Sindia for an Exemption of Duties at Gya in Favor of Myput Row an Eun of the Ishwa and 2000 Idgremes who were in his retinue that Gentlemen addresed the Governor General on the subject and after stating the Loss of Revenue which the Company had sustained from the Exemption formerly granted and the Inconveniences attending them in consequence of the Marratta Chiefs having begun to consider the exemption rather as a matter of right than as an indulgence and making no scruple to complain if they were not put upon the same footing in point of

number with other Chiefs who had gone before them he recommended that the present Application might be complied with but that a Letter should be addressed to Sindia stating to him our reasons for declining to comply with applications of a similar nature in future from whatever Quarter they might be made

53 Mr Anderson Letter on this Subject is recorded in our proceedings noted in the margin and the Governor General
Cons 22d Novr has addressed Sindia in Conformity to his recommendation

54 We have already had the Honor to communicate to you the Arrangements which had been made by the Governor General's Agent at Lucknow with his Excellency the Nabob Vizier and his Minister for obtaining the Supplies of the Fussellce year 1193, and we beg leave to refer to our Proceedings of the 22d Ultimo for a perusal of an abstract of the Nabob Viziers Account for the year 1192 ending on the 18 Sepr last

55. The Ministers of the Nabob Vizier and Almass Ally Cawn having desired that they might be honored with the usual marks of the support of this Government in Consequence of their final Discharge of the Amount stipulated to be paid to the Company in the Course of the last year, and it having been proposed to us that the Bankers, who were security for the Payment of the Debt of a Crore and five Lacks in the Course of last year, should also be presented with Khellauts from the Governor General as an Encouragement to them to pursue with Confidence future Negotiations of a similar nature we Authorized Colonel Harper to purchase the necessary Articles for that purpose The whole expence to the Company to be incurred on this Account will not exceed 27,000 Rupees.

56 A spirit of Mutiny lately appeared in the Corps which was formerly commanded by Lieutenant Polhill while in the Service of the Company, but was made over to the Vizier in the month of March last, we have however the pleasure to acquaint you that it has been quelled and that the Ringleaders are given up for Punishment

57 This spirit which communicated itself to two other Corps has encreased the difficulty which Colonel Harper experienced in obtaining money beyond the regular Kists to defray the Arrears of the Company's Troops, but as the Ministers have Advanced four Lacks for this purpose beyond the usual Kists and as in Consequence of a Power given by the Ministers to Colonel Harper to borrow what Money he could in addition to the Sums they might be able to supply Colonel Harper and the Accomptant at Lucknow had taken up the sum of nearly Four Lacks of Rupees on loan we are not without hopes that the Arrears of the Troops will be soon sufficiently discharged to effect the Relief of the Army in the upper Provinces We hope that they will be paid up to the first of November. Advices are just received that the arrears for this purpose have been obtained.

58 It has been stated to us by Colonel Harper that there has been a Delay in the late and present supplies of money for the Service of the Stations of Cawnpore and Futtly Ghur occasioned by the difficulty of changing the different species of Rupees into Siccas which must be done

under a general order now in Force and of which the repeal has been proposed to us as it is stated that it would be an advantage to the sepoys to be paid in the current specie of less Value the difference of Batta being made good to them.

59 This Subject remains to be taken into our future Consideration.

60 The Balance due by his Excellency the Nabob Vizier to the Company at the End of November including all the Demands of the Company for the Current Service and other Claims under their Guarantee was Rupees 20 41 0.789

61 Meer Mahamed Hussein whom we have resolved to depute to Hyderabad having presented to us a petition setting forth his Claim to the Arrears of a Pension of 1500 Rupees per Mensem which Cons. 7th Decr had been granted to him by the Nabob under the Sanction of the late Governor General we have stated the Circumstances attending his case to Colonel Harper and directed him to endeavor to recover the Amount we have also Authorized an Advance to Meer Mahamed Hussein of 10 000 Rupees and 500 Rupees Monthly during his absence at Hyderabad both which sums are to be carried to the Debit of the Nabob Vizier in part payment of the Stipend of Mahamed Hussein

62 In our Advice of the 25th October we communicated to you our Intention of transmitting to you by the next Dispatch a complete Translation of the Correspondence between Major Brown and your late Governor General during the period of Major Brown's Negotiations at Delhi It accordingly attends you a Number in the Packet together with a Letter which Major Brown has addressed to your Honourable Court and transmitted to us with a desire that it might accompany his Correspondence

63 We have also the Honor to forward to you a Number in the Packet a complete Copy of our Correspondence with our late Governor General During his absence at Lucknow as promised in our Last Packet

Fort William
9th January 1786

We have the Honor to be
&c.

P S Since closing the foregoing address we have received a very Satisfactory Letter from the President and Council at Fort Saint George under Date the 20th December Copy of which we have the pleasure to transmit to you a Number in the Packet

82

LETTER DATED 9 JANUARY 1786

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Reduction of expences in various establishments—regulations for discharge of public debts

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

1. We have the Honor to transmit to you by the Rodney which is now under Dispatch a Broken sett of our Proceedings in this Department from the 25th October to the 27th December Inclusive and Triplicate Copies of our Advices of the 25th September and 25th October, the Originals of which was forwarded to you by the Intelligence Packet

2 We have received from the Public Department Copies of the 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 46th, 47th, 52d and 53d Paragraphs of your General Letter of the 8th July 1785 by the Surprize, and shall pay a strict Attention to such Parts of them as contain Orders for our Guidance

3 We have already acquainted You that we had, in Conformity to the Recommendation of the Commander in Chief published an Advertisement requesting Sealed Proposals to be delivered to us for performing the Service of providing and feeding the Draft and Carriage Bullocks for the Army, and Victualling the Europeans in this Establishment, reserving to ourselves the Power of agreeing to such as we might deem most advantageous to the Company whether these might or might not be the lowest Proposals

4 The several Proposals which were made to us in Consequence of our Advertisement appear on our Proceedings noted in the
 Consn 1st Nov Margin

5 After very mature Deliberation we resolved to accept the Proposals which were offered by Sir Charles William Blunt,¹ who had performed the Business by Agency for two years before, for we were unanimously of opinion that his Proposals were upon the whole the most advantageous to the Company and that his Terms were as low as the due Performance of the Duty required would enable any one to offer

6. We were further influenced on our Determination to accept Sir Charles Blunt's Proposals by a Consideration of his Experience in the Business, and by the Testimonies which he produced to us from the Commanding Officers at the different Stations of your Army of the Good Condition of the Cattle which had been maintained under his direction These were so ample and satisfactory that we could not entertain a Doubt in Regard to the Ability of Sir Charles Blunt and his Attention to this very important Branch of your Service

7 The Proposals offered by Sir Charles Blunt, and accepted by us, are those which he made to us on a Supposition that the present State of Peace might continue, and that there might be no Season of scarcity or Famine during the Existence of his Contract, which is to last for one Year, an Option being left to us Continuing the Contract to Sir Charles or not for two Years longer as we may think proper.

8. In either of the Events of War or Famine happening before the

Expiration of Sir Charles Blunt's Engagements such further Arrangements are to be made as may appear necessary on these Accounts and such Compensation as may be Agreed on is to be made to the Contractor for the additional Risk and Expence which he will consequently incur. A Copy of Sir Charles Blunt's Proposals is transmitted a Number in the Packet.

9 From a Comparative Statement which has been prepared by the Military Paymaster General of the Expence of the late Agency and the Probable Expence of the Contracts now agreed on for one Year it appears that the Adoption of the latter mode of Conducting the Business will ensure an Annual Saving to the Company of Rs. 21 101 1

10 In our Letter from this Department of the 25th October last we acquainted you that the Committee of Revenue and Accountant General to the Revenue Department had laid before us a Report of the proposed Reduction of Revenue Charges in Conformity to the Orders contained in the 6th Paragraph of Your General Letter of the 11th April but that we delayed transmitting a Copy of it to you because we believed that the proposed Arrangement might require some Alterations and we wished that it should be complete before it underwent Your Perusal

11 The original Report from the Committee Appears in our Proceedings noted in the Margin.
Consn 25th Oct

12 Our Accountant General having Stated to us that several Articles of Expence which had heretofore been considered as appertaining to the Revenue Department in every Estimate which had been transmitted to England from his Office had not been considered as such in the Report of the Committee nor of Course included in the Limitation prescribed by your Honble Court for the Expence of the Revenue Department to the annual Sum of Seventy two Lacks we directed the Committee of Revenue to consider their Report and include in their Reductions the Establishments which may be requisite for the renovated Stations of Putty Sin Hoogly and Selberria and for Conducting the Business of Collecting the Revenue of Patcheat under the Collector of Ramgur as it appeared that the Expence of these Stations had not occurred to their Consideration in their former Report
Consn.
22nd Novr

13 We also resolved that the Expence which might be requisite for the Station of a Resident at the Durbar and the Subsistence Salary Diet Money Family Allowance and House Rent Assigned to the Different Ranks of the Service who either are or were employed in the Revenue Department should be considered as part of the Expence of that Department and that the Sum of 50 000 Sicca Rupees per Annum should be left unappropriated to defray such Contingent and Extra Charges as might unavoidably be incurred above the fixed Establishments.

14 As the same Reasons which induced your Honble Court not to include the Established Charges of the Office of Superintendent of the Manufacture of Salt as a Part of the Expence of the Revenue Department the Amount of which you have limited to 7 Lacks, appeared to us to

apply equally to those of the Manufacture of Opium and Salt Petre, we have instructed the Committee not to include the Charges of these Departments in the Statement which they have been directed to prepare with the Necessary Corrections in Conformity to these Resolutions, these Charges being in fact Separate from the land Revenue, and but a part of the Expence of a Contract or Agency

15 The Committee have not yet been able to furnish us with the proposed Estimate of such further Reductions as will be necessary, but as soon as we receive it you may rely on our Proceeding with the least possible Delay to give Effect to your Orders of the 11th of April

16 The Accountant General to the Revenue Department having been required to furnish us with a Copy of the Amount Charges of the land Revenue Department in the Year 1776/7 the same is
 Consn 22d Novr recorded in our Proceedings noted in the Margin

17. Having in Compliance with the Recommendation of the Accountant General required all those Servants of the Company who might deem themselves entitled to the Subsistence allowed by your Orders to those who have been deprived of more lucrative Stations, to lay their Pretensions before us the different Claims which have been preferred to us in Consequence appear on our Proceedings of the 20th December, as also our Resolutions on them. Such of the Servants of the Company as have been deemed entitled to their Subsistence are also permitted to draw the Old established Allowance for Salary Diet Money, House Rent and Palenkeen hire allowed to their respective Ranks in the Service—these being in fact but trivial Sums of part of the Old Establishment to which their other allowances are reduced.
 Consn 20th Decemr

18 The Subsistence Money allowed to the Servants of the Company, where Offices have been reduced, is to be paid from and placed to the Account of the Department in which such Offices existed, and the Subsistence Money allowed to the Servants of the Company who are otherwise out of Employ is to be paid from and placed to Account in the General Department.

19 Our Consultations Noted in the Margin will acquaint you with the Resolutions which we have adopted respecting the
 Consn 8th Novr Mode of drawing Bills

20. Our Secretary having laid before us an Account of the Assistants which your late Reductions admitted to remain in his Office, we took this occasion to direct that the Assistants in the Secret
 Consn. 30th Novr Department and in all other Departments of the Service, who became entitled to the Pension allotted to their Rank by your Orders of the 11th April, should continue to serve upon the Pension in their respective Offices, and be called Extra Assistants therein We also resolved that at the End of each Year such Gentlemen should receive a Gratuity from Government proportionable to their Industry and determinable upon an Attestation from the Secretary of the Work which they have done, and of which an exact account is to be regularly kept to be laid before us.

21 On the 20th of last Month we took into Consideration such Parts
 of Your separate General Letter of the 11th April/85 as
 Consa owing to the Pressure of other important Business, had not
 20th Decemr received our Determination on them

22 The following were the Paragraphs on which our Resolutions
 were required Para. 18 19 20 21 23 25 and 26

23 The Mode now in use for supplying the Hospital and Medicine
 Shop in Calcutta is by Payment of the undermentioned Sums Monthly to
 the Surgeon General

For defraying the Expence of the	
Hospital at the Presidency	Rs. 3 550
For Do of the Calcutta Medicine Shop	750

4,300

which is the Amount Stated by your Honble Court.

24 The Surgeon General is bound to pay the Company for the
 Medicines imported by them from Europe and on this Head he is indebted
 to them in the Sum of CRs. 54,280 14 4

25 In 1776 the Surgeon General was allowed for Servants at the
 Calcutta Medicine Shop

	Current Rs. 338 12 3
Do nt the Hospital	070 4 9

In the same year he was paid for	1009 1
dietlog the Sick Current Rupees	
1761 4 11 Per Annum or 146 12 6	
Per Mensum	146 12 5

1155 13 5

The Medicines were then supplied by the Company and cost them for the
 use of Bengal about Current Rupees 20 000 Per Annum

26 We resolved to call immediately upon the Surgeon General to
 pay the Sum which he is indebted to the Company on Account of
 Medicines imported from Europe We want some further Information which
 we expect soon to receive ere we determine the Mode that shall be adopted
 in future for Supplying the Hospital and Medicine Shop in Calcutta

27 Your Honble Court has been already furnished with a State-
 ment of the Expence comprized under the Head of Civil
 See Genl and all other Charges of this Government as well at the
 Letter dated 31 July 1 85 Presidency as at the Subordinates as these stood on the
 1st February 1783

28 We have agreed to meet on an early Day to revise this State-
 ment and have Ordered that the Accountant General shall then attend us
 with an Account of Reductions that have taken place in the Civil Charges
 as to the Detail to which the Statement is brought up

29 The only temporary Appointment found Necessary to be made

in Consequence of the War and existing is the Appointment of Regulating Officer of the Calcutta Militia, the Expence of which has been already Considerably reduced by our Orders of the 13th May last

30 Having restricted the allowances drawn by Gentlemen in the Civil Department to the Sums prescribed in the Reduction Ordered by your Honble Court, we do not see a possibility of effecting in any other Mode the Reduction which this Paragraph generally Orders, there being now a much greater Number of Civil Servants on this Establishment than there was in 1776/7.

31. We have had the Honor to inform you in our late Advices, of the Amount of the Military Reductions which we had effected before the receipt of your Commands of the 11th April 1785, and you have already been acquainted that the Commander in Chief is revising those Parts of Military Expence which are likely to admit of the most practicable Retrenchments

See General
Letters dated
25th September
and 25th October

32 The Military Paymaster General has been directed to lay before us a comparative Account of the Military Contingent Charges, of Boat Charges, Hospitable Charges, House Rent, and Bullock and Elephant Contracts as the same stood in 1777/8 and as it stands now

33. We have already had the Honor to acquaint you that prior to the Receipt of your Commands of the 11th April the Contingencies for Writers, Sincars &c to the Field Officers had been reduced to the lowest practicable Standard

See General
Letter Dated
25th Octr

34 The Audit of the Accounts to the 1st July last which was entrusted to Mr Purling, the late President of the Committee of Accounts having been compleated, we have the Pleasure to acquaint you that the Office of Comptroller of Accounts and the entire Establishment annexed to it were reduced from the End of November last

Consn
30th Novr.

35 The Office of Resident at Acheen has also been reduced, and Mr Kenlock has been directed to give an Account of his Proceedings and of the Result of his Commission to the Gentlemen in Charge of Your Affairs at Fort Marlbro

Consn
30th Novr

36 We have lately received a letter from the Postmaster General on your Orders of the 11th April as far as they respect the Reduction of the Expence of his Office, he has stated to us that he has been unable to discover from what Official Report from any of the Public Offices under this Government it can have appeared that the Expence of the Servants and Establishment of his Office amounted to Rs 9200 as supposed in these Orders, and, to prove to us the Impossibility of his performing the Duties of his Station with the same Establishment of Servants as in 1776, he has observed that from the Month of April 1775 to April 1776 the Collections of the Office amounted to only Rs 36,552 13 - whereas in the Year ending in April last they amounted to no less than Rs 1,02,781 15 independant of the Collections on Account of Letters on the Company's Service, which increased the total to

Consn
30th Novr

Rs. 1 28 318 12 5

37 We doubt not but the Justice of Mr Cockerell's Arguments will be evident to your Honble Court and as we have a perfect reliance on his Assurances that the Establishment which you have allowed for his Office is unsufficient to enable him to carry on the Duties of it We have agreed to permit him to draw on us for such Excesses as he shall find indispensibly necessary attesting his Bills by a Declaration that the amount has been wholly defrayed for the Purposes specified and that he has received no personal Emolument from it

38 In regard to your order which directs that the Salary of 18 000 Rs for providing the Dawk Bearers shall be abolished as the Charge of the Bearers has been given to the Post Master the Poster General [sic] has stated to us that he has never received any Salary or Commission whatever on this Account—that the Sum pointed out in your Orders is the whole annual Expence which is incurred by the Company for keeping up a Constant Establishment of Post Bearers from Calcutta to Benares during nine Months in the Year and that the only prospect which the Agent had of reimbursing himself the Extra Expence which he incurred on this Account was from the Chance he had of receiving the Amount Hire of the Bearers from Passengers not travelling on the Service of Government whereas the Expence to the Company is in a considerable degree if not wholly saved by a Deduction in the Allowance to Passengers using this Conveyance by Orders of Government which they would otherwise be entitled to

39 We have been induced by a Consideration of these Arguments and by a Conviction of the Expediency and Utility of the Establishment, to Authorize its being continued

40 A Letter has been Addressed to us by Mr Atkinson who holds the Office of Coroner on the subject of the Reduction of his Allowances from Rs 3 600 to Rs. 672 Per Annum which he has stated to be a very inadequate Compensation for the Performance of the
 Consn.
 30th Novr Duties annexed to it and he desired our Permission to resign the Appointment unless we should think proper to suspend the Execution of your Orders till your further Pleasure might be known.

41 Mr Atkinson requested our Attention to a letter which he addressed to the Board in the Month of January 1777 on the same Subject He has been informed that as we cannot
 Consn.
 30th Novr deviate from your Orders his Resignation will be accepted, but that we wish him to continue in the Performance of the Duties of his Station till a Successor can be appointed.

42. We had the Honor to transmit to you by the Intelligence a Petition from the Reverend Mr Mackinnon Chaplain to the 1st Brigade Stating the Inadequacy of the Provision allowed by your late Orders to the Military Chaplains in this Establishment and Soliciting a Restoration of their Allowances to the Amount at which they stood before your Orders Arrived

43. A Representation has been since Addressed to us by Mr Mackinnon jointly with Messrs Barber and Lewis, the Chaplains to the 2d and 3d Brigades on the same Subject, and soliciting our Interposition to grant them immediate Relief

44. Sensible as we are of the Distress to which these Gentlemen have been reduced by the Operation of your Instructions, we are much concerned that the Precedent which a Deviation from your Orders would establish precludes us from granting them the Relief which they desire, We beg Leave therefore to request your Attention to the Prayer of their Petition which attends you a Number in the Packet, and trust that it will not be found inconsistent with your other Arrangements to attend to their Request.

45 The Reverend Mr Pemberton, who held the Station of Chaplain to the Garrison of Fort William, has lately resigned the Employment, and has been succeeded in it by the Reverend Mr. Owen, in Conformity to the Directions Contained in your Letter of 27th January 1785

46 Our Proceedings of the 30th Novr contain a Representation
 from the Accountant General relative to his Office, and the
 Consn Situation in which it is placed by the Court's Orders of
 30th Novr the 11th April

47. We resolved, upon the Subject of this Representation, that, as you had expressly assigned the Sum of 1800 Rs for the annual Allowance of an Assistant to the Accountant General, such Assistant not being a Covenanted Servant of the Company, the Accountant General should be permitted to employ any Gentleman in this Duty whom he might think most capable of executing it

48. We resolved also that he should continue to exercise the Trust delegated to him in February 1780 of employing as many Assistants as the Exigencies of his Office might require, but we could not agree to an Excess in the Rates at which they should be paid above those prescribed in our Regulations of the 28th September, excepting in the Case of Nundcommar Dutt, who, in Consideration of the Length of Time for which he had served in the Accountant General's Office, might be allowed to receive the same Monthly stipend as was paid to him in the Year 1776

49 We acquainted you in our Advice of the 31st of July that the Accountant General, the Military Paymaster General and Commissary General had been directed to prepare "Lists of all Offices, Places and Emoluments in the Civil and Military Establishments of the Company, with the Salaries, Pay and Emoluments belonging thereto," as ordered by your Instructions of the 9th December 1784

50 We have since thought it necessary to direct, on a Representation made to us by the Accountant General, that the Accountants of the different Departments should individually execute their several Portions of the Lists and Accounts required by the 40th Clause of the last Act of Parliament, two of which when completed should be transmitted to you by different Conveyances, and that the Accountant General should form a

General Account of the whole which should follow them as soon as possible

51 The Civil Paymaster addressed us on the Subject of your Orders of the 11th April 1783 which related to his Office and stated to us that as they appeared to be founded on a Resolution to carry back the Civil Establishment to what it was in 1776 and to revert as nearly as possible to the System at that Time adapted he conceived that it was intended to reestablish the Buxey's Office in every respect as it stood at that Period and on these Grounds he requested that we would direct his Office to be so established

52 We agreed that the Civil Paymaster should be allowed the same establishment as was drawn for the Buxey's Office in 1776 with the exception of the Commission on the purchase of Stationary which is now under Charge of Mr Dashwood and with the Exception of the Provision of Stores. We also determined that Mr Thomas Philpot who had acted as Deputy to the Civil Paymaster should be placed in the Office of Sub Buxey with the same Salary as was drawn by the Sub Buxey in 1776.

53 The Salary of Twenty five thousand Rupees Per Annum annexed to the Station of Sub Treasurer by our Resolutions of the 27th June last having formed part of a Saving which could not have been within the Knowledge of your Honble Court when your Orders of the 11th April were issued—a saving effected by a Separation of the Offices by Mr Charles Croftes—We have yielded to this Consideration as well as to that of the Importance of the Trust held by the Sub Treasurer in directing that the Allowance should be continued to Mr Mure subject however to any Reductions that may be made in it hereafter on the general scale of Reduction in the Expence of the Revenue Department to which the Salary of Mr Croftes as Member of the Committee which was divided between the Offices of Accountant General to the Revenue Department and Sub Treasurer originally belonged.

54 While the Exigencies of War prevented us from adopting any regular Mode for the Discharge of the Demands upon our Treasury that were due to Individuals, Your Governor General and Council were under the Necessity of delegating a discretionary Power to their Officers to pay off such as were most pressing and in as far as might be practicable, to prevent the Loss of Discount from falling upon persons who were in Situations that could not bear it. Although we were confident that this discretion could not as it ought not to be abused by our Officers yet as we found it to be the Public Opinion that the Interest of the Community could not be effectually secured unless this Discretionary Power was annulled and as we were led to believe that it produced an uncertainty of Payment which was the cause of a rise in the Discount we resolved on the 20th December 1783 that all the Acknowledgements given for the Public Debts should be discharged according to Priority of Date

55 We have the Honor to transmit to you a Number in this Despatch Copy of a Minute which was laid before us by your Governor General on the Subject of your Finance with Copies of the Statements

adverted to in it, and of the Regulations which he proposed to be adopted and which after mature Deliberation were adopted by the Board and notified by Public Advertizement to the Settlement at large

56 We unanimously agreed to these Regulations, as they appeared to us the most likely to effect a regular progressive discharge of the Public Debts, and to afford at the same Time the most general Satisfaction to those to whom they were due We shall now proceed to State to you the Reasons which induced us to adopt them refering to them in the Order in which they were passed

Remark

First "That in Conformity to the Companys Orders of the 11th April 1785, it be made a standing Regulation in the Service that the Collectors and Receivers of the Public Revenue shall not make any Remittances to the presidency until they shall have completed the discharge of the Arrears due to the Troops stationed within or near their District."

The same Motives which induced your Honble Court to pass the Resolution in Favor of the Soldiery Operated with the strongest Force upon ourselves in the adoption of this Regulation, which conforms to the spirit of your Commands It cannot therefore require any other explanation from us than that in a general liquidation of the Arrears, of all your Armies in India this Regulation provides most effectually for the discharge of the Bengal Arrears a Provision that could not be made at a more seasonable moment than that in which your Bengal Troops in arrears saw the Specie of Bengal sent to Madrass and Bombay to liquidate the arrears of these Settlements

Remark

Second 57 "That in Order to place every holder of Paper upon an equal footing all the Paper now in Circulation shall be entitled to Interest at the rate of 8 Per Cent Per Annum from the Date thereof, as shall be that which may hereafter be issued while the necessity for this Arrangement shall continue excepting what may be granted to the restored Zemindars, as herein after mentioned."

We have already acquainted you with the Resolution which we passed on the 20th December in favor of a regular Discharge of the Paper in Circulation² according to priority of Date The whole of the Paper outstanding which did not bear Interest was either due to your Servants, who by the Fourth Regulation are deprived of the Prospect of immediate Payment, or to those who had purchased the

Paper of them Had any particular exception been made against such Persons it would probably have discouraged them from purchasing Paper in future and the most serious Distress would have been produced therefrom to your Servants and Contractors Your Hoable Court will also consider that if your Servants had regularly received the Allowances for the discharge of which this Paper was granted the Amount of that bearing Interest would have been so much the more than it now is and as it cannot make any difference to the Company whether they pay Interest to their Creditors or their Servants We trust that you will admit that this is the lowest consideration which we could allow them as it cannot compensate for half the Loss which they must even now sustain from receiving no more than 8 Per Cent from the Company while they are obliged to borrow of others at a much higher Interest The late Reductions of the allowances of your Civil Servants added to the sound Policy of keeping up the value of your Paper which is become a Medium for Purchases put the Measure beyond an Objection and while Paper is upon one side paid off and upon another issued under the same Interest the Sums discharged must stand against the Sums incurred in Interest We trust that the Measure itself will not be long necessary

Remark

Thirdly That in order to provide as soon as possible first for the payment of the annual

On the 11th March 1785 a Resolution was passed in the Public Department, and Public

Interest due on the Companys Bonds, as Promised in the Public Advertisements of the 14th March 1785, and next for the Payment of the Annual Interest that may be due on all Paper that may be entitled to Interest, the Treasury be open for the Receipt of Cash from Individuals for bills upon the Honble. Court of Directors, until an Amount equal to one hundred and eighty thousand Pounds Sterlling shall have been paid in The Bills including Interest at the rate of 8 Per Cent Per Annum from the Periods at which the Payments are made in the Treasury, will be dated on the 1st of March next, and delivered as soon after the Date as they can be prepared, at the Exchange of two Shillings and one Penny Per Current Rupee. They will be made Payable at three hundred and Sixty five Days Sight, and an Option reserved to the Court of Directors to extend the Term of Payment to one Year, or to two or three Years longer, and an Interest of five Per Cent Per Annum is to be allowed upon the Period of such extention. A Register will be kept at the Treasury for the Sums that may be offered ”

Notice given of it, that the Interest on the Bond Debt would not only be regularly paid in future, but that when we should be authorised to draw more Bills than were at that Time actually pledged upon your Honble Court a Preference would be given to the Wishes of the Bond Creditors to receive Payment by these Bills for half the Amount of Interest that might be due to them respectively The Interest due on the Company's Bond on the 1st December last amounted to Current Rupees 5,09,513

At a Time when the Arrears of the Army do not amount, as we believe, to a less Sum than 50 Lacs of Rupees, we could not think it adviseable to appropriate any part of our expected Revenues, excepting what might unavoidably be required for the Current Service of Government, to any other than this important object of discharging the Arrears and as such departure from the Assurances which we had given to our Bond Creditors had already produced great distress to those who had relied upon the Faith of Government for the support which an adherence to the Assurances should have afforded them, we were convinced that a Necessity actually existed which, in the 9 Paragraph of your Letter of the 16th March 1784, you allowed might occur, of drawing Bills upon you, and although it is not our Intention to apply the Sums received for these directly exclusively and to the Provision of an Investment it must be allowed that we have embraced that Object too by the Provision

which we have made for the Application of what may not be required to discharge the Annual Interest due on our Bonds, to the discharge of the Annual Interest that may be due on the 31st January 1786 on all the outstanding Paper the chief part of which is in the Hands of the Contractors of the Board of Trade who might otherwise pretend an injury to their Expectations from the later orders so necessary for the Support of Public Credit.

We must likewise observe that had not this necessity occurred we should have been justified in adopting the Measure from Motives of Policy and Benefit to your Commerce for the measure is calculated to deprive your Rivals of the means of purchasing their Investments, and to subject them to the necessity of importing Bullion for that purpose and we wish you seriously to consider in how far it may be advisable for You to allow us to extend this Policy for we have reason to apprehend that the influence of legal Penalties will not be effectual in preventing Consequences the most prejudicial to your real Interests whether we consider your Commerce or the Revenue of these Provinces

Remark

Fourth 39 That with a view of obtaining the greatest possible Amount to be applied to the discharge of the Oldest Paper in Circulation according to the 11th Article of these Regulations all the Covenanted Civil Servants of the Company drawing Monthly above three hundred Current Rupees be

The unreasonable Discount which had been demanded on Company's Paper made it necessary for us to endeavour to adopt the best means in our Power to augment its Value and we concluded that the speediest discharge of those already issued was most likely to produce this effect for in proportion as the

paid their Allowances with a Certificate bearing Interest at the rate of 8 Per Cent Per Annum, from the day on which the Allowances for which it was granted became Payable.

Those stationed in the Revenue Department are to receive their Certificates from the Accountant General to that Department, those stationed in the Commercial Department are to receive their Certificates from the Board of Trade, and all the Covenanted Civil Servants of the Company are to receive their Certificates from the Civil Paymaster, All these Certificates are to be previously Registered, in the general Register to be kept in the Accountant General's Office

The following is the form in which the Certificates are to be granted

No

Fort William

For Current Rupees

These are to certify that the Honble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies are indebted unto A B in the Sums of Curt. Rupees which will be paid with Interest at the Rate of 8 Per Cent Per Annum from the date hereof conformably to the Regulations established by the Order of the Honble, the Governor General and Council of the 20th December 1785, for discharging the demands on the Treasury according to Priority of Date "

Period in which these were discharged became reduced, in the same proportion ought the difference to be reduced between the highest legal Interest of the Country and that allowed on your Debts, which should regulate the Discount at which they were negociated. We therefore carried the Rule laid down in this Regulation as low as the Situations of those on whom we could impose it would admit

-Remark

Fifth 60 "That all Persons receiving Pensions from the Company, not covenanted Servants

As we had determined to transfer a very considerable Portion of the Burthen which has

whether Europeans or Natives, and drawing Monthly either from the Civil Revenue or Commercial Departments above three hundred Current Rupees be paid with these Certificates which are to be granted at any of the Offices before mentioned according to the Department from which they are due

Thus Rule is to be extended to the Persons receiving Monthly Stipends at Moorshedabad and to the Moishaira of the Zemindars, excepting the restored Zemindars who are to receive Paper without Interest

been borne by your Creditors to your Covenanted Servants We deemed it reasonable that those who were in Situations from which they derived more than the sum which we have allowed to be paid in Cash to your Covenanted Servants should also bear their Portion of this Burthen But as we did not conceive that the restored Zemindars had an equal Claim to the Allowance of Interest we determined to make this Exception to the general Rule more especially as the Moishaira was originally granted as a Pension to a dispossessed Zemindar and we have it in contemplation to revert in this Branch of your Disbursements to the former usage of the Country Government. The Deviation from it in granting the Moishaira has served more we are apprehensive, to Benefit the Native managers of the Revenue than the real Zemindars, the the Provision was originally founded on a Principle of Just and Humane Policy

Sixth 01 That all Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons not stationed with the Army and drawing above three hundred Current Rupees Per Month be paid their Allowances with these Certificates.

Seventh. 02. That all Covenanted Servants and other Persons drawing Monthly three hundred Current Rupees or less than that Amount shall from the 31st January 1753 be paid in Cash

Remark

These Regulations being but the just and necessary Consequence of those which we have already explained they require no further elucidation from us.

Remark

Eighth. 03 That the Arrears

The Reason which we have

which may be due in the Civil, Commercial and Revenue Departments on the 31st Jan /86 be discharged with Certificates bearing Interest at the rate of 8 Per Cent per Annum the Dates on which the respective sums were payable, and that these Persons who are still in Possession of Treasury transfer Drafts which they have taken for their Allowances be permitted to Exchange them for Certificates bearing interest from the Dates on which they became Payable The benefit of this last Clause will not be allowed to those who do not make application for their Certificates before the 15th February next "

already assigned for putting all the Holders of Paper upon the same footing apply equally to the respective Allowance of Interest upon Arrears, but we must observe in Addition to them, that it was more particularly due to those who were prevented by the Regulations from realizing their Demands in Money and thus obtaining that object which they had long waited with much Patience

But some Gentlemen had lately taken up from the Civil Paymaster Treasury Transfer Drafts which bore Date prior to the Period at which they were issued, Had these been taken when they were due, they would by our Regulations have borne Interest accordingly We therefore resolved to put these upon that footing, but as this was an Indulgence which those who had purchased the Transfer at a Discount could not be entitled to, we have prohibited it from being allowed to any but those who are still in Possession of them and we should certainly have made the same exception respecting retrospective Allowance of Interest on Paper that did not bear Interest before the Regulations passed, had we not reason to apprehend that it might have excited suspicions in the Minds of Monied Men that we might hereafter impose other unequal Terms upon those we were in Possession of Paper purchased from others

Remark

Ninth 64 "That none of the Certificates shall on any pretence whatever be received by either of the Officers of Government as Cash, but shall be regularly discharged

We have for a long Time past felt the utmost Inconvenience from the want of this Regulation The Shroffs or Native Bankers and other Agents have been accustomed to

in common with the Company's other Paper in the order in which they were issued. To secure this the Collectors of the Revenue the Collectors of Government Customs, the Governor General's Agent at Lucknow and the Residents at Benares are prohibited from making their Remittances to Calcutta in Bills without a clause stipulating under a penalty that such bills will be discharged in Cash.

Tenth 65 For the convenience of Individuals, and the benefit of Circulation and of the Investment any Person will be allowed Bills upon the Collectors of the Revenues the Agent at Lucknow and the Resident at Benares for Money paid into the Khalsah or General Treasury

Eleventh 66 That from and after the 31st January 1760 the difference between the Monthly receipts in Cash and the established and unavoidable issues of it for the Public Service conformable to these Regulations shall be applied to the Regular discharge of the Paper in Circulation according to priority of Date in the Terms of the Advertisement of the 10th Instant

purchase at a heavy Discount at the Treasury Transfer Drafts given to your Servants and have discharged our Claims on them with these Transfers while the Bills drawn upon them did not contain any Stipulation for their being discharged with Cash

Remark

Having determined upon bringing down to the Presidency the Net Revenue not wanted for the Pay of the Soldiery we were under the necessity of making the Provision which this Regulation contains to prevent an unnecessary and expensive transportation of Specie from the Subordinates to the Presidency

Remark

We doubt not but that the difference between the Monthly Receipts in Cash and the established and unavoidable Issues required of it for the Public Service conformable to these Regulations will produce so expeditious a Discharge of the Paper now in Circulation that it will appear in a very short Time to the Public that the Discount money demanded is greatly above the difference between the Rate of Interest which the Paper bears and the Highest Legal Interest of the Country and as we cannot Account for so extravagant and unreasonable a Depreciation as has lately obtained of it but in the want of a Criterion by which the Public

might become enabled to judge of the Period in which those issued at any particular Date would come in course of Payment, We are determined to keep the Public regularly advised of the Progressive Extinction of the Old Paper and the Creation of the New Paper, We doubt not but that it will be in our Power to inform you ere the last Ship of this Season has been dispatched that these Regulations have produced a very considerable diminution of the Discount demanded in the Negotiation of the Acknowledgements given for the Public Debts.

67 "The Governor General and Council confidently hope that all the Paper now in Currency will be paid off in the course of Twelve Months The amount of the Reductions which they have made in the established Charges of the Government aided by the effects of these Regulations, and the additional Resources, which are to be derived from the upper Provinces, will in all Probability have realized this expectation ere that Period has elapsed "

"The Board also trust that the Regulations hereby ordered cannot fail to secure the great Public Objects of preventing in future all partial Payments of discharging the Arrears of the Army, of providing the most regular and speedy liquidation of the Claims on Government, and thereby reducing the Discount now demanded in the Negotiation of Paper, and removing the difficulties that impede its Circulation".

Having already furnished you with a Statement of the Amount of our Reductions and of the Additional Resources which we are to derive from Oude, we trust that you will deem us Warranted in forming the expectation which we have suggested to the Public, but of this we shall be able by an early dispatch to inform you with certainty, as we have directed an Estimate to be formed of the Probable Amount of the Diminution in the Amount of our Debts

68 As your Honble Court have been pleased to direct that the Expence of the Revenue Department including what may be paid to the Persons receiving Stipends thro' the Resident at the Durbar, and the established Expence of that Station shall not exceed the annual Sum of 72 Lacks of Sicca Rupees we have resolved that the Office and Establishment of Resident at the Durbar shall not be continued on its present Footing beyond the 30th of January 1786, from which Period the Resident is permitted to deduct a Commission of 5 Per Cent on the Stipends paid from his Office, to be considered in Liew of all the established Allowances which

he has hitherto drawn and as the Reduction which this will occasion in the Income of the Nabob Mobarnek ul Dowla and his Ministers is comparatively small with those which you have ordered in the Salaries of your Servants we doubt not but they will cheerfully acquiesce in it The Governor General has addressed a Letter to his Excellency Mobaruck ul Dowla and to Mahomed Arza Cawn on the Subject.

69 The complete discharge of our Military Arrears with the consequent additional Demands from Fort St George and Bombay will for a time delay that satisfactory Expectation which you cannot be more anxious in forming than we are zealous to realize from the preceding Arrangements and when you have attentively considered the difficulty as well as ability of affording General Satisfaction to all our Creditors by the means in our Power to command we doubt not that you will allow that the Measures adopted are the most likely of any that your Superior Administration could have determined upon to support your Credit and regulate your Interests in India

70 We are aware that objections may be made to the Regulations by those whose immediate necessities are urgent and who are placed low in the Order of Payment But the question is not what objections can be made to the Regulations but what were the most solid the most impartial and the least Objectionable Regulations that could be adopted

Fort William
the 9th January 1780
[Per Rodney]

We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs
Your most faithful humble Servants.
John Macpherson/Ro Sloper/
John Stables/Chas. Stuart

63

LETTER DATED 9 JANUARY 1780

[Foreign Department]

Dispute regarding search of two French ships l'Auguste Victor and l'Esperance—French right to free trade

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

Our Dispatches from this Department of the 25th October transmitted by the Intelligence and in duplicate by the Francis will advise you of the various Events that had occurred to that date in our transactions with the Foreign Settlements A Triplicate of those dispatches is now forwarded by your ship Rodney with a Broken set of our Consultations and their Index beginning on the 20th October and ending on the 21th ultimo

French

2. Our packet by the Intelligence contained a letter which had been addressed to us by our Commissary at Chandernagore, in which he detailed all that had been passed between him, and the French Agent in respect to the Execution of the 13th Article¹ of the Definitive Treaty, from their first meeting to the Date of the account

3 We had hoped that our letter to the French Agent of the 25th October, which we mentioned to you in the 32d paragraph of our last General Letter would have brought the subject of our Differences to a close by bearing the adjustment of them to our respective Courts in Europe, but we have been disappointed in their expectation, and our disposition to carry on a friendly correspondence with the French Agent has been counteracted by a conduct directly the reverse in Mr Dangereux, we are inclined indeed to believe that his line of proceeding is not unwarranted by the instructions of his Court, or by those of the Gentlemen at Pondicherry and that he has been desirous to create difficulties and Embarrassments in the Execution of the 13th article of the treaty for the sake of furnishing Pretexts for extraordinary Demands and even for national disputes This suspicion receives encreased strength from the conduct of the superior Agents of the French Nation, whose political views have been stated to you in our advices from the Secret Department

4 The Letter addressed to us by Mr Dangereux on the 14th November, in consequence of ours to him of the 25th of October, is a very insufficient reply to it Its general object seems to be to shift the responsibility for the Delay in restoring to the French nation their rights in these Provinces from himself to us, to charge us with an incompetent knowledge of them, and with having consulted uninstructed or ill-intentioned Persons concerning them He declares his pretensions to have had a just Foundation, and assures himself of the approbation of his Court, and he produces an extraordinary proof that Delays are not imputable to him, by observing that of all the objects we have hitherto refused him there remains but one in which we do not acquiesce The only points in Discussion which he declined to accede to were those of announcing the several Inquiries made of ships and vessels at Budge Budge, and delivering manifests of their cargoes on their arrival at Chandernagore, and he proposed that the latter should be submitted with the other subjects to the Decision of our Courts

Cons 22nd
November,

5 We directed our Commissary to inform Mr Dangereux that the Regulations which had been lately passed for the Buxbunder,² or Country Government Custom House, appeared to us reasonable and proper, and conformable to ancient usage, and that we did not deem ourselves at liberty to accede to any Deviation from them We observed also that any parts of those regulations which the French Agent should continue to disapprove might be subjects of appeal to Europe, and determined on by our respective Courts

Cons 22nd
Novr.

6 Mr Dangereux having requested a modification of the 3d article of the salt adjustment, which reputed the Time of Importation, we resolved that it could not be admitted and that no alteration of that adjustment can be agreed to. Indeed we saw there would be no end of alterations or conceptions. We called upon Mr Dangereux to propose any Regulations upon a new Plan that could at once secure to Government effectually the Duties he agreed to pay and obviate Restrictions he wished to remove. His answer to this proposition and his inability to specify better arrangements showed clearly that he wished to retain the advantage of making indefinite Demands.

7 An application having been made to your Governor General by Mr Dangereux for settling the proportion of opium to be allowed to the French for this year we agreed on the 14th November to grant them 200 Chests on their paying the Price that was usually paid for it before the late War. This Indulgence exceeded what had formerly been allowed to the French in the amount of fifty Chests. The French Agent having also made a request that the salt Petre agreed to be allowed to him for this season should be delivered in Calcutta we complied with it altho in doing so we deviated from the rule which had been always observed that the salt Petre should be delivered to the French at Patna. Mr Dangereux is to be charged for the Expence of the Transportation of the salt Petre from Patna and a reasonable Per Centage on account of the risk to which it may have been exposed on its way from thence to the Presidency.

8 Our last advices acquainted you with the Disputes that had arisen concerning the Visitation of French Ships as they passed Budge Budge on their way up the River. They have been repeated in two Instances one relative to a French ship called *L Auguste Victor* the other relative to a small Pilot Vessel called the *Esperance* and denominated by the French Agent a *Corvette du Roy*.

9 We shall write the Circumstances of both as they were reported to us.

10 On the 21st November Major Mestayer the Commandant at Budge Budge addressed a Letter to the Commander in Chief acquainting him that a French ship named *L Auguste Victor* late from Europe and last from Pondicherry had on her arrival off signal Point which is the visiting station a little below Budge Budge attempted to pass the Batteries of that place without coming to be searched and give the usual account required by Government, till a Blank Cartridge and a shot & Head were fired at her. He referred for particulars to Captain Kearnan an Officer belonging to the Garrison of Budge Budge. Captain Kearnan attended the Board and delivered to us a verbal account of what had passed it was afterwards committed to writing and was as follows.

On Sunday 20th November 1755 Captain Kearnan having some private Business in Calcutta left Lieut. Exshaw in charge of the Garrison. At 9 O Clock that Evening Capt. Kearnan received a letter from Lt. Exshaw informing him that a French Merchantman had refused to have

his Vessel searched, that in Consequence he fired a Blank Cartridge at her to bring too, but, not finding that had the desired effect, he fired a shot a Head of her, when the ship brought too. Capt Kearnan wrote him for answer that he had acted very properly, and not to suffer her to pass without orders from the Commander in Chief or Council. Capt Kearnan immediately acquainted the Comptroller of the Salt Office, who requested she might be detained, also major Mestayer the Commandant of the Fort who wrote to the Commander in Chief, Lt Exshaw also informed Capt. Kearnan that he had great reason to suppose she had salt on Board about one O'Clock in the morning of the 21st Inst., Capt Kearnan received another letter from Lt. Exshaw, informing him that he had permitted the Vessel to pass in consequence of the Captain opening his hatches, and saying they might search her, but that his people should not assist in clearing away so as a proper examination might take Place, that he Lt. Exshaw not having proper people to do it, he did not know how far he was authorized to detain her, tho' from every circumstance he suspected she had salt and requested Capt. Kearnan would inform the Comptroller, which Capt Kearnan did; he also sent the Captain's letter which Captain Kearnan delivered to the Commander in Chief".

11. This letter from the French Captain was dated the 20th November and was Verbatim as follows .

"It would be unnecessary for me to mention to you, the Firing of Cannon loaded with Ball on my ship, or of the forced Visitation to which I have been obliged to submit. I ask of you, Sir, why I am detained here ?"

12 Capt Kearnan having reason to imagine that the L'Auguste Victor had salt on Board we directed him to state them in writing, and at the same time ordered the search should be continued. He immediately sent the necessary orders to Budge Budge but before they arrived there the French ship had passed the Fort.

13 The following are the reasons given by Capt. Kearnan for supposing that the ship had salt on board

"1st Because the Commander refused to Comply with the positive orders of Government on being boarded at the Signal point, in not suffering, his ship to be searched "

"2d. Because he did not immediately come too on being told he would not be permitted to pass the Fort of Budge Budge, but continued under way until the positive orders of Government were enforced by firing a shot a head of the ship "

"3dly Because the Vessel was said to come from Europe and last from Pondicherry, and her hold was more full and lumbered than ships generally are after a Voyage of six months, and also because the Capt refused to clear the hold in any manner, which prevented any proper examination for salt being made."

"4thly The Letter from the Captain to the Commanding Officer of Budge Budge, which was delivered to the Commander in Chief, in which

he absolutely disclaimed any right in our Government to board or Examine him.

5thly The account Capt Kearnan received some days before from Capt. Josh Bailey Commanding the William merchant ship from Pondicherry who informed Capt Kearnan that a French Brig was to sail in a few days for Pondicherry loaded with salt for Bengal and upon his observing to the owner that his salt would be seized in Bengal the French Captain replied there is no fear of that as the Salt Trade is now open to the French Nation.

Captain Bailey further informed Capt Kearnan that the General opinion at Pondicherry was that the Salt Trade was free to them and that it was assigned as a reason why it was so That the two Captains Savary and Le Termillico both Commanding French ships (lately stopped at Budgo Budgo by Capt Kearnan) had been permitted by Government to pass with their salt to Chandernagore he also said that he was certain every French Vessel that had not freight for a Voyage elsewhere would in future load salt for this Port.

14 On the 22nd November the L Auguste Victor being a little below Fort William we call Mr Vansittart the Comptroller of the Salt Department, before us and having acquainted him with the Circumstances that had happened directed that he should visit the ship and inform the Captain that he was not the Head of the Salt Department and had been sent by the Board to examine her in consequence of positive information received that she had salt on Board Mr Vansittart was also ordered to acquaint the Captain that in consequence of an agreement between this Government and the French Chief the French were precluded from importing salt except under particular regulations which had been mutually resolved on

15 Mr Vansittart accompanied by the Master attendant went on board the ship she was completely searched and not having been found to contain any salt she immediately proceeded to Chandernagore

16. The French Agent called on us on the 23d November to render immediate and satisfactory justice for an act of violence (as he termed it) which had been committed towards the L Auguste Victor our reply to his letter is transmitted a number in the Packet and recommended to your particular attention

17 Having related the Circumstances which happened in respect to the L Auguste Victor we now proceed to lay before you those of a more serious nature which have occurred in respect to the Esperance

18. On the 7th of last month we received a letter dated the 6th from the French Agent in which he acquainted us that His Majesty's Pilot Commanding the Corvette L Esperance had been stopped at Budgo Budgo and that they had fired at the vessel when she wished to continue her route to Chandernagore Mr Dangereux transmitted to us a Copy of the Letter from the Commander which with his own to us is forwarded a number in packet He informed us with the greatest Diffidence

of what had happened Order [*sic*]” to prevent the loss of the Corvette which was coming to be repaired and because “the smallest Delay might be the means of her perishing” He acquainted us also as follows

“I gave orders to the Pilot to come up, without permitting a Visit, to be made as soon as he shall have given in his Complaint, If you oblige that Corvette to stop at Budge Budge, she shall be at your risk, and I will give her up to you I have no remedy to oppose to violence and injustice, but the reclamation of our right and Privileges but I make no doubt that my Court, which I acquaint exactly with every thing, will take the necessary measures towards yours to obtain a satisfactory reparation of all the vexations and insults which we daily undergo ”

19. Immediately on the receipt of Mr Dangereux’s Letter of the 6th December which we have already observed reached us on the 7th, we sent the following Directions to the Commandant at Budge Budge Vizt. “that if the Vessel mentioned by Mr Dangereux were a Vessel of War, and the Commander bear the Commission of the King of France, she should be immediately permitted to proceed without interruption, but if, on the Contrary it should appear that she was private property and any sufficient information should have been received of her having contraband salt on Board, she must be detained till further orders ”

20 These Directions were dispatched to Budge Budge a little before 3 O’Clock in the afternoon of the 7th, and we ordered that they should be communicated to our commissary for the information of the French Agent.

21 They did not however arrive at Budge Budge in sufficient Time to prevent the consequences that ensued from the opposition given by the Commander of the *Esperance* to the usage of the River

22 The following is the particulars of the Business as stated by Captain Kearnan to the Commander in Chief

“This day, about three O’Clock, the French Vessel that was stopped between this and signal point got under way On her approaching the Garrison I ordered a Blank Cartridge to be fired to bring her too, which was paid no regard to, five minutes elapsed before the shot was fired at her rigging which was treated with the same indifference, I ordered a second shot to be fired at her rigging, when a shot was fired from the Vessel, the Garrison fired two more, when the Vessel came too, and took down her Colours, The Captain came on shore, and shewed his Commission, which says she is a King’s Corvette, and he told me he had anchored the Vessel and was going to Chandernagore, also shewed orders from Monsr. Dangereux to act as he did, also that he would take no further charge of the Vessel but left her to me, I replied that I should take no Charge, and said had the officer he left yesterday on board taken the Letter which I wrote to him, and sent a person to receive his answer to the Questions agreeable to my orders, he would have been permitted to pass.

“I yesterday wrote to the Captain and Enclosed a letter from Monsr,

Dangereux to him he was gone to Chandernagore The Officer Commanding refused to receive it, tho directed to the Captain or Officer Commanding The purport of it was demanding where he was going the ship and Captain's name whence he came, and Cargo which is the positive orders of Government In his report to the serjeant he did not call himself a King's ship but said he was a Pilot from Balasore roads, which with the information received of her having salt on Board, was the cause of the wanting to search for salt I request your orders on this affair and hope my conduct will meet your approbation The Captain told a man was wounded on board I desired he wanted bring him ashore to our Doctor he said he had sent him to Chandernagore he has quit the Vessel and is gone up with the People

23 On perusal of this Narrative we ordered that a copy of it should be sent to the Commissary at Chandernagore that he might communicate the purport of it to the French agent acquainting Mr Dangeroux at the same time that as it appeared from his letter to the Board of the 6th December that he had given orders to the pilot in the Corvette to come up the river without permitting a Visit to that Vessel he alone was responsible for the Consequences of the resistance which had been made to the established Regulations of Government.

24 Mr Dangeroux not only remonstrated in strong terms but delivered a Protest against the proceedings of the officer at Budge Budge toward the French Corvette deeming such proceeding to be an Outrage offered to the Flag of His most Christian Majesty

25 Having directed our Secretary to acquaint the Commanding Officer at Budge Budge that the Board imagined that it must have been ere that time clearly ascertained whether the Corvette had any salt on Board on her arrival in the river and if she had that he should report the same to us a person was sent on board who found her Hatches locked and barred.

26 We gave strict orders that no charge should be taken of the Vessel on any account

27 Particular Details of the proceedings at Signal Point and Budge Budge towards the L. Esperance are recorded on our proceedings of the 12 ultimo. We directed that these should be supported by regular affidavits taken in a legal manner affidavits have been taken accordingly and are transmitted to you Numbers in the Packet together with a concise narrative of the events.

28 The following appear to be necessary conclusions from the facts as they have been stated to us.

1st That the Commander of the French vessel who does not appear to have denied that he had salt on board had no sufficient reason to refuse a search for that article if no salt was to be found there

2nd. That the person called Le Sieur Puget and Commanding the Esperance is well known to have been a Pilot commonly employed before the late War in Piloting French ships and Vessels into this River

3rd. That the Syrang called the Vessel a Company's Pilot vessel,

and that Mr. Puget not having at the beginning of the Business shewn any warrant or paper to support his assertion that he was a King's Pilot, could not properly be so considered

4th That, although the Forms of visiting ships before the[y] pass Budge Budge does not exist with regard to French ships of War, it certainly does and ought to exist with regard to such vessels as pilot vessels, be they under what commission they may, for if it be in the power of a French Governor, or a French Agent, to grant Commission on the part of His most Christian Majesty, He may grant commissions to all the French Vessels in India, and so far forth a pretence will be afforded to such vessels to elude the purposes for which the Form was instituted by the Government of this Country to visit foreign as well as English ships before they pass the river Forts

5th. That repeated signals and warnings were given to the vessel to prevent the consequences of a refusal to admit the search for salt, but without the least Effect

6th That the presumption entertained of her having salt on board was strongly confirmed by her coming in with a Doney, or salt vessel, and by that vessel's continuance along side of her for one Day and night, during which the salt might have been easily embarked from one vessel to the other, and after which it might have been with equal case carried away by the Doney, which, instead of proceeding up the river, where she must have undergone a search, returned down the river probably to evade it.

7th That even admitting (what however may not be admissible) that the French Agent possesses a right to grant warrants or Commissions on the part of His most Christian Majesty, the warrant or commission granted to Monsr Puget, being said to be granted on the 7th December, could not operate as a sanction to Mr. Puget, the French Captain, in his previous resistance to the usage of this Port

8th. That Mr Dangereux's Commission to Mr Puget, and his instructions to that Gentleman to act, as he did, in defiance of the authority of this Government see Mr Dangereux's letter to the Govr Genl and Council dated 6th December being dated on the same day, a strong suspicion is thence established, which receives encreased force from the general tenor of Mr Dangereux's conduct to this Government, that he not only seeks but fabricates causes for a rupture between his nation and our own It appears further and evidently that the whole of this Transaction was premeditated on the part of Mr Dangereux to bring the point in Dispute to the issue to which it has come and which he knew it must have come according to the established orders of Government.

29 Having received various representations and remonstrances against the present exercise of the usage long established of visiting the ships of all nations, before they passed the Forts on the Banks of the river, and being desirous, at the same time that we do not concede the right to accommodate the exercise of it as far as possible to the convenience of Foreign Nations, and by so doing to prevent any just ground of Complaint,

we have passed some new regulations for visiting the ships. They accord perfectly with the assurance given to Mr Dangereux in our letter of the 20th October and we trust will be approved of by your Honble Court if it be your pleasure that the right of visiting ships should not be totally given up. Had Mr Dangereux agreed literally and decidedly to our propositions in the letter of the 25th October we should have accommodated the established Regulations to the spirit of that letter. But we saw in Mr Dangereux's Reply to it a reserve which required caution on our part in altering any orders that had been long established. A Copy of the new regulations goes a number in the Packet together with a transport of those which have been heretofore in use and which guided the proceedings of the officer at Budge Budge in respect to the *L. Auguste*, *Victor* and *L. Esperance*.

30 We have stated to you the conclusions which we have drawn from the circumstances laid before us concerning the French Corvette. But these Conclusions have not been notified to the French Agent. In proportion as our conduct towards him is marked with moderation the violence of his towards us must appear the more conspicuous and subject to reproach.

31 The sentiments of your Govr General on this occasion were delivered to us in a minute which is transmitted to you a number in the Packet. We followed them in our answer to Mr Dangereux's Complaint.

32 There was reason to believe that the Government of Pondicherry had not approved of his conduct and with a view to cover any Faults in it he might wish to embroil us with the superior French Government in India and to work up the points in Dispute to a national quarrel.

33 We determined therefore to counteract the aim of the French Agent and to divest him of all pretence for charges which he wished to establish against us of infraction of the treaty and insult to the Flag of His most Christian Majesty. In our answer to his protest we expressed our regret at what had happened in regard to the French Corvette and observed that so far from intending an insult to the flag of his most Christian Majesty it was demonstrable for the Circumstances of the case that we could not have prevented the misunderstanding which had unfortunately taken place for when we received intimation from Mr Dangereux that the *L. Esperance* was a Corvette in the service of his most Christian Majesty orders were immediately dispatched to the Commanding Officer at Budge Budge to desist from any search and to occasion no delay in her passage up the river. We then proceeded to acquaint the French Agent that this Government would ever be solicitous to act up to the principles and Declarations in our letters of the 20th October and 7th Decr where we disclaimed any intention of stopping or examining French ships of War and as the *L. Esperance* deserted by her crew and as we were advised afterwards that it had been declared by him to have been in the service of His most Christian Majesty and commissioned under his royal authority we offered to replace the said *Esperance* Corvette and to defray any expenses that might have been occasioned by her Loss.

34. The French Agent has sent us a Civil answer to this proposal. He assures us that he never doubted of our making an open reparation to the flag of his most Christian majesty, and of our disavowing the insult shewn to the Esperance King's Corvette by the faulty Indiscretion of the Commandant at Budge Budge, Mr Dangereux acquaints us that he sent accounts of this unhappy event to the Governor General at the Moment, dispatching to him his protest, and act of [.] which were sent to us by our Commissary and that the affair appears to him of too delicate and important a nature to permit him to decide any thing until he receives the orders of the Governor General

35 Soon after we had written our last letter to the French Agent, and before he had replied to it, we received one from Mr Cossigny, the Governor at Pondicherry for the time being, and one from Mr Dangereux addressed to us in consequence of a letter which he had received from the same Gentleman

36 Mr Cossigny letter to this Government is dated the 28th November and acquaints "that on the departure of the Vicomte de Souillac, Governor General of the French Settlements on this side of the Cape of Good Hope, His most Christian Majesty had entrusted Mr Cossigny with the particular Government of Pondicherry and of all the French Settlements on the Peninsula, and in that Capacity he was bound to take notice of the account which Mr Dangereux, Agent for the French nation at Chandernagore, had sent to the Vicomte de Souillac of a treaty which he had made with us, and which, altho' conditional, would still have effect 'til news should be received of the certain Disapprobation of the Governor General, since in the said treaty His Britannic Majesty guarantees to His most Christian Majesty the Liberty, the Certainty and the Independence of the Commerce of the French nation

Mr Cossigny informs us that "Mr Dangereux has in every respect exceeded his powers, and that he loses no time in writing to him to annul every convention that he may have made contrary to the 13th article of the late Treaty of Peace, and to execute the positive orders which he gives him in virtue of the powers which are vested in Mr Cossigny supplying the place of the Vicomte de Souillac." These orders he states to be to "call upon us for the execution of the treaty made between our respective Courts, to desire our free answer concerning the Pretensions which we establish upon their trade in salt, concerning the visit which we think we have a right to make to the trading vessels of the French nation, and finally concerning the duties and customs which we permit the Princes of India to exact on their merchandize "

37 Mr Cossigny's letter does not state with accuracy the 13th article of the late treaty, He declares that in that article "His Britannic Majesty *guarantees* to His most Christian Majesty the liberty, the certainty, and the independence of the commerce of the French nation " The terms are widely different, "His Britannic Majesty engages to *take such measures as shall be in his power* for securing to the subjects of France a safe, free,

and independant trade *such as was carried on by the French East India Company whether they exercised it individually or united in a Company*" Mr Cossigny stops at the words independent trade, and leaves out the relative explanation which follows them

38 Mr Dangereux's letter to this Government is as follows. We quote it verbatim because we wish to be as precise as possible in stating the terms in which it is expressed.

"I have received a letter from the Governor General who entirely disapproves of the arrangement which I have accepted in my letter of the 17th October to Mr Wilton for importation of salt into this Country and which I only accepted with the proviso that no new orders from my Court should disapprove it those which I have just been made acquainted with Gentlemen, being precise I cannot absolutely deviate from them and you ought to regard that conditional arrangement as entirely without force What I have now the Honor to inform you must have been already communicated to you by Mr de Cossigny Gouverneur particulier, who the rendering justice to the motives which determined me to consent to that treaty regards it as contrary to the liberty which our commerce ought to enjoy

I have the Honor to lay before you Gentlemen the Demands which the Governor General Orders me to make, in the name of His most Christian majesty

1st. The free, certain and independent entrance of French ships and Boats in all the Ganges, without being subjected to any kind of visit (or search)

2nd The free Importation and Exportation, certain and Independent of all the Merchandize of Europe and of India absolutely free from every Duty on their import and export and particularly for the following articles

3rd. A free certain and independent exportation of salt petre from Patna to Chandernagore and from Chandernagore to France

4th. The free certain and independent, importation of salt from the Coast of Coromandel and Orissa not only at Chandernagore, but even to all the Factories on the Ganges where we have a right to hoist the Flag of his Majesty without our being limited as to quantity, that ought only to depend on the manner in which we would employ it

I am equally ordered to desire from you a speedy clear and precise answer concerning these four articles and I dare flatter myself that you will be kind enough to put me in a situation to satisfy without losing time the Governor General on this subject

39 Mr Dangereux declares in the beginning of his letter he has received one from the Governor General in which he entirely disapproves of the salt adjustment *which he only accepted with the proviso that no new Orders from his Court should disapprove it.* We believe that Mr Dangereux cannot have yet heard from the Governor General on this subject We know that that he has heard from Mr Cossigny Gouverneur

particulier, and we believe the fact to be, however extraordinary, that the French Agent's powers are independent of even the French *Gouverneur General*, of course they must be independent of the *Gouverneur particulier*, whose authorities being delegated cannot be greater than the authorities of the person from [sic] he received them. Certain it is, that when Mr Dange-reux *proposed* the salt arrangement, which he now thinks proper to say that he *accepted* meaning to imply that the proposal came from us, not him, there was not the least mention made of any superior authority in India, nor is such superior authority referred to in any other act of his administration. The salt arrangement was to have Force until the Decision of "the Courts" were known. We are sure that he must have intended at the instant the Courts in Europe. Had he then proposed any other meaning to this Expression, or had he found himself not at liberty to conclude without orders from Pondicherry, it would have been easy for him to have waited for those orders on a reference before he made any arrangement whatsoever.

40 In answer to Mr. Cossigny's Letter to this Government we have acquainted him that "as the late requisitions came to us from the superior Government of the French nation in India, and thro' Mr Dangereux, whom from the Vicomte de Souillac's letter of the 8th June we conceived to be invested with full delegated powers respecting the French Commerce in Bengal, we have thought it proper to address our answer to him for the information of the Vicomte de Souillac and, as it applies directly to those points which Mr Cossigny wishes to ascertain we presumed that a copy of it which we sent to him with its references would explain the Line of this Government on the subject in Question. We assured ourselves that his Excellency on perusing our letters to Mr Dangereux of the 25th October and 7th December, and other official Papers, on the points in Discussion, would see clearly that our Endeavors have been throughout exerted to maintain that union and Harmony which are so happily established between our respective sovereigns."

41 Our reply to Mr Dangereux's letter is transmitted to you, with copies of the other letters and papers necessary for your information, a number in the Packet. You will observe from it that it yields nothing which had not been agreed to be yielded before and that it is calculated to give time for our receipt of answers to the references which we have made to your Honble Court.

42 In the 5th Paragraph of our General Letter of the 25th October we acquainted you that no difficulties had then occurred, nor did we think that any would be apprehended in regard to the restitution of places to the French, We had taken pains to ascertain with precision what these were, and, in the Conferences which had then passed between our Commissary and the French Agent, the Claims of the latter seemed to correspond, excepting in a few trivial Instances, with the Documents from which our Commissary was empowered to accede to, but these Claims have not continued the same. The French Agent has not thought proper to discriminate between private and Public Factories, He considers every

man sent by him into the Provinces in the light of a Public Agent. Thus and other Claims of the French Agent were stated to us by our commissary, under Date the 7th of last Month and we determined on them on the 8th. We have the Honor to transmit them to you with Copies of our Resolutions numbers in this Dispatch. We are not yet informed how Mr Dangereux has received our Decisions. They conformed to the resolutions that were passed on similar questions in the year 1775. Had these been improper we conceive that the 13th article of the late Treaty would have some provision which would have prescribed a new line of proceeding but as it does not include such provision we did not deem ourselves at liberty to give up more than had been yielded before the late War.

43 It is an obvious policy in the French but a policy no less convenient to them than it must be eventually ruinous to your interests to send Agents if they be permitted into all parts of this country, to undermine the authority of Government over the Zemindars and the natives and create a disposition in them to shake off their subjection whenever the plans of France should be sufficiently matured to give operation to its Intrigues.

44 Our proceedings of the 8th December contains a letter from Mr Commissary Wilton in which he lays before us a representation which he had received from the acting Magistrate at Dacca that Mr Champigny the Gentleman deputed to receive the French Possessions there assumed to himself a power of hearing and determining on complaints not only against persons residing on ground which was the national property of the French but against the Ryots of the lands which are possessed by their Native Servants.

45 We resolved upon this representation that the French not possessing jurisdiction are not to exercise any judicial authority whatsoever without the limits of their national property but that all complaints made by themselves connections or servants, and appertaining to persons or matters without such limits, are referable only [to] the country courts in common with the complaints of British subjects and natives of the country.

46 Some disputes have arisen between Mr Day your Chief at Dacca and Mr Champigny the latter demanding a spot of ground as French Property which had not been claimed by the French Agent and which consequently your Commissary did not order to be restored. Mr Champigny however has been publicly put in possession and now refuses to give it up.

47 We directed the Commissary to make particular inquiry whether the French have a right to the place and if it should appear that the French have not a right to it we have ordered him to state the fact to the French Agents and the mistake which has arisen in giving up the place and to desire that it may be given back as we cannot confirm an irregular act done without our licence or authority.

48 While we were considering the resolutions to be passed on the right of the French to the possessions which they claimed a Letter

arrived from Mr Langereux imputing to us the Delay which had arisen in the restitution of them, when in fact it was to be attributed only to himself and the unwillingness of the persons whom he had destined for the different factories to proceed to them until some certainty could be established of their remaining in office, doubts having occurred to them on this point in consequence of the Charter given to the new French Company, whose powers they were not yet informed of

49 Mr. Commissary Wilton addressed us on the 20th of last month, with a relation of the difficulties that he had met with in the performance of his Commission at Chandernagore, and of the instances of disrespect shewn to it by Mr Dangeieux in not confining his Correspondence with us to the regular Channel of conducting it We availed ourselves of this opportunity to testify our entire approbation of Mr Wilton's conduct in the Execution of the trust reposed in it, and we thought it necessary to desire that every letter which the French Agent might address to us in future might be communicated to Mr Wilton, while his Commission lasted, and transmitted to us thro' him

50 In the whole of our Transactions with the Agents of the French nation you will be pleased to observe that our conduct and our letters to them aim at a liberal, conciliating, and open line of proceeding such as will enable you and His Majesty's Ministers to justify our measures, and to charge the French Agents with the Consequences of their own misconduct

51 If the administration of France aim at no more than the 13th article of the late Treaty of Peace can warrant on their part, we have been as ready to meet their wishes and to respect their rights as it was possible for us to do consistently with our Public Duty If the Ministers of France seek for advantages which your agents cannot surrender in India without giving up the force that is necessary for your security, (such as your Revenue from salt in the present moment) they in other words ask you to lay down the sword at the instant that you must be ready to use it in self Defence

52. Had we given up the Revenue arising from salt by laying the trade open to France, they would then deny you a revenue from customs They might then claim a share in your landed revenue, and upon the plan of trading freely through the Provinces and erecting their Flag where they pleased they would have found a direct road to the vitals of Government and to excite tumults in these Provinces which would have endangered the Possession of them

53 You will be pleased to observe that by agreeing to the partial convention of salt we have involved the Agents of France in Disputes among themselves, and by submitting to that agreement they give us an avowed right to visit their ships, and when you shall be pleased to compare the difference between the *first Demands and Requests* of Mr Dangeieux, as Agent General, and latterly the Demands of Mr Cossigny, as Governor in India, you will see that the privileges that are sought

by the latter are different from those claimed by the former. The latter claims an *Exemption from all Duties* for the French Trade.

54 In the whole of this Business we trust that you will approve of our conduct, and that you will be speedy and decided in sending the necessary Instructions

Dutch

55 We have the Honour to transmit to [you] a number in this dispatch a copy of the reply made by the Dutch Deputies to the answer which we sent to their memorials forwarded to you with our letter of the 25th October and mentioned in the 45th paragraph of that address.

56 Solicitous to comply with the wishes and request of the Director and Council at Chinsura in as far as we deemed ourselves at liberty so to do we desired the Board of Trade to take such measures as might appear to them most proper and effectual for facilitating the provision of the Dutch Company's investment and we directed our Secretary to obtain copies of the accounts and papers which the Dutch Deputies had applied for in relation to the capture of the Bark Constantia and the Pante Jalling Geduth and to transmit them to the Dutch Deputies as soon as he received them.

57 In respect to the several other matters and the several Propositions which the Deputies had laid before us in their last memorial abovementioned, we observed that our letters of the 30th August and 8th September were full and explicit on all the Points which they submitted to us, and that altho we did not deem ourselves at liberty to deviate therefrom or to accede to the Conventions which they had proposed to us we should transmit copies thereof to your Honourable Court and request your orders and Determinations on the several subjects.

58. The objects of the Deputation from Chinsura being ended Mr Jacob Eilbracht the only Deputy then at the Presidency took his leave of us on the 21st November after having tendered our acknowledgements for the personal attentions which he had received from us during his residence in Calcutta. A copy of Mr Eilbracht's letter is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin.

59 The replies made by the Resident at Malda to the complaints of the Chinsura Deputies of Impediments given in that District to the provision of the Dutch Investment are entered in our Consultation of 14th November

60 The Resident at Balasore having addressed a letter to our secretary acquainting him that a Sircar had demanded possession of the Dutch Factory at that Place and desiring to be informed whether he was to deliver it to him or wait an official order, we directed Mr Wedsworth to deliver up the Dutch Factory at Balasore to any person properly authorized by the Chief and Council or Chief at Chinsura to receive Charge of it.

61 In the 52nd Paragraph of our advice by the Intelligence we acquainted you, that we had desired the Gentlemen at Fort St George and Bombay to transmit to us a statement of their advances to the Dutch prisoners, who had been subsisted and maintained at any places under their authority during the late War with Holland, and to furnish us also with authenticated vouchers relative thereto, we have yet had no answer from Bombay to this application, but we have been informed from Fort St George that they had sent the vouchers to Europe, and that they had it not in their power to forward copies of them to us, as they had been transmitted by mistake to England with the originals by their Deputy Paymaster General

62 Our Consultation of the 22d Novr contains the record of applications preferred to us by Mr Charles Purling to such monthly salary as we might think equitable to be granted to him from the Time that his allowance as Commissary at Chinsura ceased to the period of the restoration of this settlement to the Dutch and the Completion of the accounts appertaining to it,—an application founded on an assurance that we had made to him on the 18th February 1784

63 Mr Purling's first letter to us on this subject is dated the 10th January 1785, and he addressed a second to us on the same subject on the 20th June, last, owing to the pressure of important Business that engaged our attention, those letters were not taken up until the 22d November In Mr Purling's letter of the 20th June he represented to us in detail the circumstances that related to his application, and he considered the allowances which had been granted to Mr Malony, the Commissary at Chandernagore, as a precedent by which his claim might be determined to an equal amount, and, perfectly assured that his Employers would not, upon a reference of his case think his claim unjust towards them or exorbitant in itself, he proposed (in case we should not deem ourselves competent to comply with his Requisition upon our own authority) to enter into any engagement we might think fit to indemnify the Company in the event of the disapprobation of your Hon'ble Court

64 Mr Purling also requested that we would allow him the Company's Interest on the amount of his claim as he considered himself justly entitled to it until it should be paid, in as much as it must occur to us that thro' the interval, in which he had not received a salary for his office, this expence must have been defrayed from his Private Fortune, and as upon Enquiry it must appear to us that, although charges had arisen in the Transaction of his Business, he had made no demand of any

65 Having duly considered the merits of Mr Purling's application we agreed that he should be allowed a salary of 1,000 Sa Rs per Mensem calculated from the 1st December 1782, when the charge of the Commissariat at Chunsura devolved upon him singly to the 25th March 1784 when he was appointed to the Committee of Accounts, and that he be allowed House Rent also at the rate of 200 Rs. per mensem.

66 We did not think proper to allow Mr Purling any salary or

House Rent as Commissary at Chinsura after he was appointed to the Committee of Accounts but we agreed to defray any charge that he would declare himself to have actually incurred as Commissary for writers or Budgeron Hire for that time

67 Mr Purling was informed that should this arrangement not be satisfactory to him his claim might be referred to your Hon ble Court for your Determination on it

68 Mr Purling was pleased to remonstrate against our non compliance with the whole of his application but he declared his readiness to receive what was offered to him leaving the rest to your Determination

69 His several letters attend yon numbers in the dispatch. We have only further to observe on them that allowing his claim to be just to the same allowances that were granted to Mr Malony his receipts altogether for salary and commission were much larger Mr Malony's receipts having amounted to Current Rs. 75 168 and Mr Purling's to Crs 1,24 748 11 10

70 In consequence of a letter received from Mr Purling in which he stated to us his claim and that of the other gentlemen who acted in the Commissariat at Chinsura to a Commission on the amount received from Mr Halsey we agreed to the justice of it and issued an order on the Treasury in their favor for the Sum of Sa Rs 16 072 12 5 being the Commission at 10 per cent on the amount so received after deducting Law Charges

Dances

71 The Chief and Council at Fredericksnagore have objected to the last Regulations which we had passed for the Collection of the Duties of the Buxbunder or Country Government Custom House Their letter is recorded on our Proceedings of the 8th November

Fort William
9th January 1786

We have the Honor to be &c

LLTTER DATED 10 JANUARY 1786

French plan to resist inspection of the vessels—justification for strong navy

THE Hon ble the Secret Committee of the Hon ble Court of Directors.

Hon ble Sirs

I We have had the Honor to receive by the Surprize Packet a Copy of your Secret Letter to the President and Council at Bombay under Date the

8th July 1785 directing them to dispatch two small Vessels to take Possession of and settle the Island Chagos or Drego Garcia situated in 7^o 16 South Latitude which was visited in the year 1774 by the Drake Ketch A Transcript of these Orders has been sent in Cypher to Bombay

2 Our Letter to the Hon'ble Court of Directors from the Secret and Foreign Departments will inform you of the proceedings of the French Agent at Chandernagore, and of the Intrigues in which the other Agents of France appear to be employed for the Increase of their Power and the Consequent Diminution of that Influence which Great Britain has long possessed in the East Indies

3 We believe that the Resistance made by the French Corvette L'Esperance to the established Usage in this River and her surrender at Budge Budge were the Consequences of a preconcerted Plan¹ in the French Agent at Chandernagore to produce Such a Necessity for the Exercise of our Authority as should furnish a pretext to France to make Reprisals on your Ships, and to engage in Hostilities with the English under the plausible Excuse that our conduct has given Rise to them Our Offer to replace the Corvette and to compensate any Loss that may have been sustained by the Accident which has happened to her, is calculated to prevent those serious Consequences which might otherwise have attended it but if the French are resolved on seeking Pretences for a Rupture, the Proposal which we have made may not be accepted Similar Occasions may be forced upon us by Vessels actually importing Salt, and consequent Reprisals may be intended

4 The Conduct of the French in Bengal, and the Machinations of their Agents in other Parts of India require our strictest Vigilance and Care to guard against their possible Effects The Measures which we have lately adopted for discharging the Arrears of your Armies in India, for securing their regular Payment in future will, we hope, be productive of the best Consequences, and enable your Troops to act with Success whenever Occasion may require them to take the Field, but this success will be much retarded, and indeed the worst may be apprehended, if in the Event of an European War in India we should not be assisted by a Naval Force The French have Ships at Mauritius, they have Cruisers in the Gulph of Persia, and they sometimes have Frigates in the Coromandel Coast The Dutch too have a Fleet in India, while the English are without any, or at least will be so in the expected Departure of the Ships now commanded by Captain Hughes

5. The Intelligence received by his Majesty's Ministers will probably enable them to determine what Measures are in Contemplation in the Cabinets of France or Holland, but it is our Duty to represent to you that it will be in the Power of two Ships of War to stop Supplies from Bengal to the other Presidencies while we have no naval strength to oppose to them, and that as the other Presidencies particularly Fort St George, must depend in a great Degree on us for the Means of carrying on War, we shall be involved in the most serious Dilemma if at the Commencement

of Hostilities there shall not be a British Marine Force in India equal to that of our Enemies as we are advised, tho' we have no official Information of the Fact, that a mutual agreement was concluded or understood between the Ministers of Great Britain and France for withdrawing the Marine Force of each Nation from the Indian Seas By the Indian Seas we should certainly understand the Seas East of the Cape of Good Hope, and every Precaution should be taken that no large French Ships armed en Fleete should visit these Seas for they may soon be fitted out as Ships of the line of Mauritius and unless the Engagements between France and Holland are fully known to our Ministers and provided against the squadron of the States General may on any sudden Rupture between us and the Dutch or between us and the French act against us

Fort William

10th January 1780

[Per Rodney]

We have the Honor &c

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LETTER DATED 27 JANUARY 1786

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Retrenchment in and reorganisation of the army—regular payment of interest on the bonded debts

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs

1 We had the Honor to acquaint you in our advices of the 25th October and 9th Instant that the Commander in Chief was revising those parts of your Military Expence which were likely to admit of the most practicable Retrenchments In Addition to those which had been effected before our Receipt of your Commands of the 11th April 1785

2 The attention of the Commander in Chief was first drawn to the Saving that might be made in the present Mode of Supplying the Officers of the Sepoy Corps with Camp Equipage A Considerable Charge had been incurred by the Company of late years by granting an Extra allowance to the Officers with which they were to provide their own Camp Equipage and the former practice was set aside of supplying them with Camp Equipage and Carriage for it at the Company's Expence It appeared clearly that an annual Saving of at least Current Rupees 1,27 169 would be produced by our reverting to the former System The General therefore Recommended and we agreed to revert to that System as soon as possible We have accordingly Ordered that the allowance granted to the

Officers of the Sepoy Corps for Camp Equipage shall be discontinued from the 1st May next, when the Tents to be made up beyond the Number now in Store will be ready for delivery at the Several Stations of the Army

3 Copies of the Commander in Chiefs Minute and of the Statement appertaining to it are transmitted to you Numbers in this Dispatch , Besides the Proposition already Mentioned it contains another for reducing the Lascars attached to the Six Companies for artillery at the Presidency to the following Peace Establishment, which the General deems Sufficient for the Duties of that Station.

4	Serangs	}	for each Company
8	Tindals		
8	Cossabs		
100	Lascars		

4 We have agreed to this Retrenchment, which will produce an annual Saving of Current Rupees 1, 08,410 By embracing this, and the other proposition from the Commander in Chief Relative to Camp Equipage a total Saving will be produced of Current Rupees 2,35,579 per annum, and a further convenience will arise in diminishing the Monthly Cash Disbursements at the Rate of Current Rupees 53,6, 560 in each year

5 These Resolutions were passed on the 16 Instant , On the 25th the General proposed to us a further Reform in the Corps of Artillery, which also met with our Concurrence The following is a Copy of the Orders which we have passed in Consequence

6 Resolved that the two Battalions of Artillery be immediately incorporated into one Battalion of ten Companies, but that the Establishment of Commissioned and Non Commissioned Officers attached to them do remain as it is at present until Vacancies and Casualties occur, which not being fitted up shall gradually reduce it to the following Numbers

1	Lieutt Coll Commandant
1	Major
10	Captains
10	Captain Lieutenants
20	Lieutenants
30	Lieutenant Fireworkers
6	Serjeants
60	Corporals
30	Drummers or Fifers
80	Bombardiers
240	Gunners
530	Matrosses

Resolved on the following Staff for the Battalion and that it take Place at the Same time that the two Battalions are incorporated into one

1	Adjutant
1	Quarter Master
2	Surgeons
6	Assistant Surgeons

- 1 Serjeant Major
- 1 Quarter Master Serjeant
- 1 Drum Major
- 10 Pay Serjeants
- 1 Drill Serjeant
- 2 Drill Corporals

7 When detached Companies of Artillery are in Situations that require an Adjutant and Quarter Master they are to be allowed and held by the same person with the Staff Allowance of Adjutant only This Regulation is now to take place at Berhampore Dinapore Cawnpore and Futtighur

8 Resolved that two Six pounders Field Pieces with 24 Lascars be attached to his Majestys Regiment to each of the Companys European Regiments and to each Regiment of Sepoys and that forty Rupees per Mensem be allowed to the Commanding Officer of each Regiment for Shedding and Greazing the Guns and giving them Slight Repairs.

Resolved on the following Establishment of Lascars and Artificers to the Several Companies of Artillery within and without the provinces.

Lascars to be attached to each Company of Artillery in the Field at Cawnpore and Futtighur

- 1 Serang
- 6 Tindals
- 6 Cossabs
- 166 Lascars
- Staff to each Company
- 1 Sircar
- 1 Doctor
- 4 Washermen

Resolved that the Establishment of Artificers &c. with the Train and Quarter Masters of Artillery Companies in the Field do remain for the present as it is now

Lascars to be attached to each Company of Artillery within the provinces

- 1 Serang
- 3 Tindals
- 3 Cossabs
- 84 Lascars
- Staff to each Company
- 1 Sircar
- 1 Doctor
- 2 Washermen

Artificers &c. to be attached to each of the Companies of Artillery Burrampore and Dinapore under the Quarter Master

- 1 Cossab
- 7 Lascars
- 1 Black Smith

- 1 Seeklegur
- 1 Sailmaker
- 2 Bullock Bheasties
- 2 Hand Ditto
- 4 Beldars
- 4 Coolies

Artificers &c to be attached to the Six Companies now at the presidency under the Quarter Master

- 1 Tindal
- 1 Cossab
- 12 Lascars
- 6 Black Smiths
- 6 Seeklegurs
- 3 Sail Makers
- 12 Bullock Beasties
- 12 Hand Ditto
- 12 Bildars
- 12 Coolies

9 The Establishment of Artificers allows for the Service of the Arsenal in Fort William precluding the Necessity of any Establishment of Artificers for a Train at the Presidency, the Establishment of Artificers now drawn for by the Commandant of Artillery is henceforth discontinued, and the Work which has hitherto been performed by the Artificers drawn for by the Commandant is to be carried on by those belonging to the Arsenal and those attached to the Quarter Master of Artillery at the presidency

10 These Reductions will be productive of a considerable Saving, and, as soon as the Calculations shall have been Made, they will be transmitted to you for your Information

11 We forward to you a Number in the Packet a Copy of a letter addressed to us by the Accountant General on the 14th Instant, in which he proposes to us such further Regulations as appeared to him Necessary to give a due Effect to those which we passed on the 29th last Month, and Communicated to you in our advices by the Rodney. A Copy of our Resolutions on the Accountant Generals Letter is also transmitted a Number in the Dispatch

12 After Maturely deliberating on the Probable Effects to be expected from the Regular Discharge of the annual Interest of the Company's Bonded Debts in India, considering also the obedience due to the Orders of your Honble Court as contained in your General Letter of the 11th April 1785, and being in the fullest Expectation of affording Satisfaction by the Measure as well to the Creditors of the Company as to our Honble Employers We have determined to take upon us the Regular payment of the Interest on the Company's Bonded Debts in India

13 We have Accordingly authorized the other Presidencies to grant Certificates to their Bond Creditors in Discharge of the Annual Interest on their Bonds as it may become due after the 30th April 1786 These

Certificates are to bear Date on the annual Returns of the Periods at which the Transaction took Place for which they were granted They are to bear an Interest of 8 Per Cent Per Annum from their Date and to become payable in the Order by which they may be registered here on their arrival But as the Interest on the Bombay Bonds is Computed at $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent for a Month of 30 Days, the Bond Creditors of that Presidency in order to become entitled to the benefit of this arrangement, are to agree to Accept the same Rate of Annual Interest as is now paid to our Bond Creditors, which will produce an annual Saving of Bombay Rupees 2 33 672 13.3 or Current Rupees 2 57 040 1 10 exclusive of the Expence of remitting Current Rupees 20 84 880 0 10 per Annum by Bills of Exchange With respect to any arrangement for the Payment of the Principal of your Bonded Debts in India we could not devise a better than that which was proposed by your Governor General in April last and recommended to you by several Channels of Conveyance in the Course of the year 1785

Fort William
the 27th January 1786
[Per King George]

We have the Honor to be Honble. Sirs,
Your most Faithful Humble Servants
John Macpherson/Ro Sloper/
John Stables/Chas Stuart

LETTER DATED 27 JANUARY 1786

[Foreign Department]

TO the Hon ble the Secret Committee of the Hon ble the Court of Directors

Hon ble Sirs

1 We have the Honor to transmit to you by the King George a Duplicate of our Letter by the Rodney under date the 10th Instant

2 We avail ourselves also of this conveyance to forward to you a Secret Minute which the Governor General laid before us on the 10th Instant but which for obvious Reasons we do not think advisable to put yet upon Record The Governor General's Propositions have received our entire Concurrence in [] and the Fox with Lieutt Colonel Cathcart on board will Depart [from] hence in a few Days.

3 We enclose Copies of the Papers referred in the Governor General's Minute and of our late Correspondence with Monsr Cosaigny at Pondicherry and Mr Dangereux at Chandernagore

4 The time Limited for the Dispatch of the King George obliges us to postpone a more particular Recital of our Transactions with the French

until the Departure of the Dutton which [would] leave Bengal in the Course of the next week

Fort William,
27th January 1786
[Per *King George*]

We have the Honor to be,
&ca &ca &ca ,
(Signed) Governor General and Council.

67

LETTER DATED 4 FEBRUARY 1786

[Foreign Department]

Disputes with the French—Col Cathcart appointed Minister Plenipotentiary at Mauritius

TO the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble Court of Directors.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1 We forwarded to you by the Hon'ble Company's Ship *King George* a Copy of a Secret Minute which the Governor General had laid before us on the 17 of last Month We acquainted you that the Propositions contained in it had received our entire Concurrence in them, and that the *Fox* with Lieutt Colonel *Cathcart* on board would depart from hence in a few Days

2 That Period is now arrived, and the *Fox* is on the Point of Sailing. The Arguments which are used by the Governor General, in his Minute already mentioned, and again transmitted to you in this Packet are so full and clear in the Discussion of those Points which have been, and yet remain, in Dispute with the French in India, and the Informations with which the Hon'ble Court of Directors have been furnished in the late Dispatches of this Government, have been so particular as well in their Relation of Events as of such former Usages as have any Reference to them, that you will be amply provided with Materials for deciding on the Differences which have happened, and for describing with Exactness those Lines of Conduct which you may wish us to observe invariably in our Proceedings towards the French and other Foreign Powers The general Subject is at the same Time so important, not only as it respects the immediate Interests of the Company but as it may affect the Continuance of Peace, that His Majesty's Ministers and the Hon'ble Court of Directors cannot be too soon engaged in the Consideration of it

3. It was our Duty to recite to our Superiors the Difficulties we had met with in our Transactions with the French, and this Duty has been fulfilled It is no less incumbent on us to make an Effort to draw the attention of the French Government General in India to some reasonable and

Certificates are to bear Date on the annual Returns of the Periods at which the Transaction took Place for which they were granted They are to bear an Interest of 8 Per Cent Per Annum from their Date, and to become payable in the Order by which they may be registered here on their arrival But as the Interest on the Bombay Bonds is Computed at $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent for a Month of 30 Days, the Bond Creditors of that Presidency in order to become entitled to the benefit of this arrangement are to agree to Accept the same Rate of Annual Interest as is now paid to our Bond Creditors, which will produce an annual Saving of Bombay Rupees 2 33 872 13.3 or Current Rupees 2 57 040 1 10 exclusive of the Expence of remitting Current Rupees 20 84 880 0 10 per Annum by Bills of Exchange With respect to any arrangement for the Payment of the Principal of your Bonded Debts in India we could not devise a better than that which was proposed by your Governor General in April last and recommended to you by several Channels of Conveyance in the Course of the year 1785

Fort William
the 27th January 1786
[Per King George]

We have the Honor to be Honble. Sirs,
Your most Faithful Humble Servants
John Macpherson/Ro Sloper/
John Stables/Chas Stuart

66

LETTER DATED 27 JANUARY 1786

[Foreign Department]

TO the Hon ble the Secret Committee of the Hon ble the Court of Directors

Hon ble Sirs

1 We have the Honor to transmit to you by the King George a Duplicate of our Letter by the Rodney under date the 10th instant

2 We avail ourselves also of this conveyance to forward to you a Secret Minute which the Governor General laid before us on the 10th Instant but which for obvious Reasons we do not think advisable to put yet upon Record. The Governor General's Propositions have received our entire Concurrence in [] and the Fox with Lieutt Colonel Cathcart on board will Depart [from] hence in a few Days.

3 We enclose Copies of the Papers referred in the Governor General's Minute and of our late Correspondence with Monsr Cosigny at Pondicherry and Mr Dangereux at Chandernagore

4 The time Limited for the Dispatch of the King George obliges us to postpone a more particular Recital of our Transactions with the French

until the Departure of the Dutton which [would] leave Bengal in the Course of the next week.

Fort William,
27th January 1786.
[Per *King George*]

We have the Honor to be,
&ca &ca &ca ,
(Signed) Governor General and Council.

67

LETTER DATED 4 FEBRUARY 1786

[Foreign Department]

Disputes with the French—Col Cathcart appointed Minister Plenipotentiary at Mauritius

TO the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble Court of Directors.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1 We forwarded to you by the Hon'ble Company's Ship *King George* a Copy of a Secret Minute which the Governor General had laid before us on the 17 of last Month We acquainted you that the Propositions contained in it had received our entire Concurrence in them, and that the Fox with Lieutt Colonel Chatcart on board would depart from hence in a few Days

2 That Period is now arrived, and the Fox is on the Point of Sailing.

The Arguments which are used by the Governor General, in his Minute already mentioned, and again transmitted to you in this Packet are so full and clear in the Discussion of those Points which have been, and yet remain, in Dispute with the French in India, and the Informations with which the Hon'ble Court of Directors have been furnished in the late Dispatches of this Government, have been so particular as well in their Relation of Events as of such former Usages as have any Reference to them, that you will be amply provided with Materials for deciding on the Differences which have happened, and for describing with Exactness those Lines of Conduct which you may wish us to observe invariably in our Proceedings towards the French and other Foreign Powers The general Subject is at the same Time so important, not only as it respects the immediate Interests of the Company but as it may affect the Continuance of Peace, that His Majesty's Ministers and the Hon'ble Court of Directors cannot be too soon engaged in the Consideration of it

3. It was our Duty to recite to our Superiors the Difficulties we had met with in our Transactions with the French, and this Duty has been fulfilled It is no less incumbent on us to make an Effort to draw the attention of the French Government General in India to some reasonable and

practicable Adjustment of the real obligations in the 13th Article of the last Treaty and to endeavour to prevail on them to unite with us as well in a fair and candid Representation of the Points in Dispute to our respective Courts as to such temporary Arrangements as will preserve a good Understanding between us until the Pleasure of our Courts on those Points shall be ascertained

4 With this View the Governor General recommended to us that a Person properly commissioned and qualified should be deputed to the French Governor General as Minister Plenipotentiary on the Part of this Government We agreed to the Proposition and gave our ready Concurrence also to the Selection of the Hon ble Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart¹ for this delicate and important Negotiation.

5 Coll Cathcart is personally known to the French Governor General and highly esteemed by him His office and Rank in his Majesty's Service will secure to him attentions which the French Government disposed to dispute with us on every Ground might withhold from a Servant of the Company in the same Trust, and the Governor General has already benefited so much by Coll Cathcart's Attention to the Movements of the French and by his Knowledge of their Situation in the Carnatick that we assure ourselves of great Public Advantages from his Deputation on the proposed Service

6. Our Instructions and Commission to Lieutt Coll Cathcart and the Letters which have been written as well by the Governor General as the Board to the French Governor General on the Subject of his Mission are transmitted to you Nos. in this Dispatch

7 The allowances granted to him are no other than those usually given to the Company's Ministerial Resident but we have thought it expedient and indeed necessary to vest him with a Power which we are sure is placed in safe Hands of drawing upon the Governor General for such Secret Service Money as he may require for obtaining and forwarding Intelligence

8. Lieutenant Young of his Majesty's 78th Regiment attends Coll Cathcart as his Secretary and Assistant and in the Event of any Accident to the Colonel will take Charge of the Affairs of the Deputation until further Orders from Bengal.

9 The Gentlemen at Fort St George and Bombay have been informed of the Deputation and desired to furnish us as soon as possible with particular and precise Communications of all Points that have occurred or may occur and require the Intervention of this Government or adjustment with the Superior Government of the French in India They have also been desired to send Copies of such Communications to Coll Cathcart after they shall have heard from him of his Arrival and Reception at Mauritius that he may be enabled to discuss the necessary Points agreeably to our Instructions and Decisions. They will also furnish him with such Intelligence as may occur in respect to the French and they may judge proper for his Information

10. You will observe, on a Reference to Coll. Cathcart's Instructions, that in the Events of the French Governor General declining to receive him, or to enter into amicable Negotiation on the Business with which he is entrusted, and particularly if other appearances indicate in his Opinion an Intention of an early Rupture with Great Britain, Coll Cathcart as directed to proceed to Europe without Delay informing us at the same Time by the best means in his Power of this step and his Reasons for it.

11 It is instructed also to give full Information to your Secret Committee on his Arrival in London, and, having communicated those Circumstances, which have come to his knowledge, to return either by Land or Sea to Bengal unless His Majesty's Ministers or your Secret Committee should require his further Attendance

12 In giving these Orders to Coll Cathcart we had not only in View his necessary obedience to your commands but also that His Majesty's Ministers should have an Opportunity of availing themselves of his local Information, and of Lights which he is peculiarly enabled to afford, if they should see proper to require his Services towards a speedy and effectual Adjustment of the Points in Dispute with the French Government.

13 We assure ourselves that Coll Cathcart will not only prove himself deserving of the important Charge with which we have entrusted him, and which the political State of India has rendered necessary, but that he will acquit himself to the Satisfaction of His Majesty's Ministers and the Hon'ble Court of Directors should they be pleased to employ him in Europe

14 When his Presence shall be judged no longer necessary in England, we shall be anxious for his Return to Bengal with those definitive Arrangements which shall establish our Relation to the Foreign Governments in India, and determine our Conduct towards them

Fort William,
4 February 1786

We have the Honor to be

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LETTER DATED 26 FEBRUARY 1786

[Foreign Department]

French claim to certain privileges in regard to trade

TO the Hon'ble Court of Directors

Hon'ble Sirs,

Our last address from this Department was dated the 9th of January. It was dispatched by your ship Rodney, and has been since transmitted in

three other copies by the King George Fox and Dutton We now forwarded by your ship Deptford a continuation of our Proceedings relative to the Foreign Settlements from the 24th December to the 31st January inclusive together with the annual Sett of our Consultations and Indexes to both

French

We had the Honor to lay before you on the 25th October by the Intelligence a Letter which had been addressed to us by our Commissary at Chandernagore in which he detailed all that had passed between him and the French Agent In respect to the Execution of the 13th article of the Definitive Treaty from their first meeting to the date of the account We now transmit a continuation of that Narrative brought down to the 5th Instant. We forward likewise an abstract prepared by Mr Wilton of all the material events and occurrences which happened in Bengal from the Peace of 1763 to the Surrender of Chandernagore in 1778 in as far as the same have any Relation to those Subjects of Dispute which had occurred with Mr Dangeux The Commissary's Letter to us of the 8th Instant enclosing these narratives is sent also a Number in the Packet.

We beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to Mr Wilton's Narrative brought up to the 5th Instant for full Information of all that has passed to the date of it In our Proceedings with the Agent at Chandernagore

Your Honourable Court will observe in that Narrative that altho the Restitution of the French Factories and Residences had been completed in as far as the Acts of this Government were concerned yet that possessing an earnest Wish to remove all possible Ground of Complaint in respect to Possessions which were the Right of the French Nation, we expressed our willingness to abide by the Declarations of Monsieur Nicolas the Senior Servant of the French in Beogal or by the Declaration of any two French Gentlemen who were in Council at Chandernagore relative to the Right of the French to any particular Places claimed by them as having been in the Possession of the French Company before the last War such Declarations being supported by Oath or other sufficient and satisfactory Evidence of the Truth of them

This Resolution having been communicated to the French Agent he transmitted to our Commissary a formal Declaration from Monsieur Nicolas, in which the last Demands of the French Agent have met with general support but the Declaration is not confined to the Right to Places It is extended to Privileges also—Our offer went only to Nicolas's Testimony in respect to Places, and by that offer we are bound to abide where his Declaration is explicit but in regard to Privileges and the Right of sending Agents to all Parts of the Country we are under no tie and the Subject is of too much Importance to your general Interests to allow of our concluding without your authority all that the French require from us.

A copy of Mr Nicolas's Declaration is transmitted a Number in the

Packet with a Copy of the Letter from the French Agent which enclosed it and of our Commissary's Remarks

You have been duly advised of the offer which we made to the French Agent to replace the *Esperance* Corvette, and to defray any Expences that might have been occasioned by her Loss, and you have also been informed of the French Agents answer in which he observed that the affair appeared to him of too delicate and important a Nature to permit him to decide thereon until he should receive Orders from the Governor General at Pondicherry: A Reference having been consequently made by Mr. Dangereux to Mr. Cossigny on the Subject, Mr. Cossigny has acquainted him that "he is not qualified to accept of the Proposal which we made on the 14th December last relative to the Loss of the *Esperance* Kings Corvette, that he has given an Account to Monsieur Le Viconte de Souillac and to his Court of this unhappy affair, transmitting to them at the same Time all the Papers which Mr. Dangereux had sent to him on the Subject." Mr. Dangereux, acquaints us further that Mr. Cossigny is extremely surprized that we should confound the French with other Nations in a Regulation that ought never to concern it, since it would deprive the Nation of the incontestable Privilege which they had obtained, and which they had always enjoyed—that their Ships should pass freely every where that they may judge it necessary for their Commerce, and which forbids that they should be stopped in their Passage or any Impediment thrown in their Way even under the Pretext of Visit and Inspection "

This Question is already in Reference before your Honourable Court with our Remarks on it

Your President and Council at Fort St George addressed us on the 25th of last October on a Claim made by Monsieur Le Viconte de Souillac to an Exemption for the French from all Duties of Import and Export both at their Sea Ports and Factories Inland on the Coast of Coromandel

Your Government of Fort St George justly conceiving that the 13th Article of the Definitive Treaty did not allow so extensive an Interpretation declined admitting it, and informed the French Government of their Intention to permit every Exemption and Privilege to their Nation, whether trading Individually or as a Company which were formerly enjoyed by the French Company. They notified however to the French Commandant at Pondicherry that they should refer Mr. de Souillac's Letter to us, and conform to such Directions as we might think proper to send them

The President and Council at Fort St George transmitted to us in consequence Copies of several Letters, and of a Minute of their late President, tending to illustrate the Subject, and observed that if the French were allowed what they claim they would enjoy Privileges which would materially affect your Interests

We have not yet offered our Sentiments to Fort St George on this Subject the Difference between them and the French Government could not be removed by it, and we are in Expectation of bringing the Subject to some general accommodation with the superior administration of France

in this Country or of receiving explicit orders for our Guidance from your Honourable Court The first Claims of exemption from all Duties in Consequence of the late Treaty of Peace come before you 1784 [sic] in the Demands of the administration of Pondicherry upon that of Fort St George as they are stated in Mr Moneron's Letter to the English Company of the 21st November 1783

Fort William,
the 28th February 1786

We have the Honor to be etc.

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LETTER DATED 28 FEBRUARY 1786

Plan for the liquidation of military arrears—collection of peashkash from poligars—detention of Rodney snow by the Marathas—Sindia's concurrence in the appointment of Malet at Poona—intrigues of the French at Poona—British assurance of support to the Marathas—Sindia's activities near Delhi—amindars of Benares

TO the Honourable Court of Directors

Hon ble Sirs,

1 Our last advices from this Department bearing date the 9th ultimo were conveyed to you by the Rodney and have since been transmitted in Quadruplicate by the King George Fox and Dutton

2 We have now the Honor to forward to you by the Deptford the Annual Sett of our Proceedings for the year 1785 and a Broken Sett of our Consultations from the 10th ultimo to the 22d Instant with Indexes to both

3 As we were closing our Dispatches by the Rodney we received advice from Fort St George of the arrival of our Arrangements at that Presidency for the Liquidation of their Military Arrears These arrangements afforded much Satisfaction, and your President and Council were assured that most beneficial Consequences must result from them The Letter which they addressed to us on this Occasion recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin a Copy of it was forwarded to you a number in the Rodney's Packet

4 The time which has elapsed since the Publication of our Plan at Fort St George has not been sufficient to admit of our yet acquainting you with the full effect of our Arrangements but the Eagle Snow will probably sail from thence in the Beginning of next Month with Dispatches for your Honourable Court and we imagine that the Gentlemen in the administration of your affairs there will be enabled to inform you of the Result by that Conveyance

5 As the Measure in Contemplation of Deputing Paymasters to Fort St George with the Money which was remitted thither for the Pay

ment of the Troops appeared to your President and Council to be liable to misconstruction, we have relinquished our Intention in this respect and left the Execution of our Instructions in Regard to the Distribution of the Money to their Management

6 The President and Council at Fort St George have acquainted us in their Late advices that they should lose no Time in carrying into Execution our Arrangements of the 14th Novr., and that for this Purpose they had already issued orders for ascertaining the exact Amount of Military Arrears on the 31st December and had already made some Payments on account of the Current months and granted Certificates for Pags 56,725 It appears by their Letter that they have been
 Consn. 22 Feby led into an Error by supposing that the Exchange between a certain number of Current Rupees and of Star Pagodas, introduced into the Form of an Arrear Role which we transmitted to them, was intended as a Standard to regulate the general Rate of Exchange to be observed by them in granting such Certificates as those before Mentioned, for the Sums introduced into the Arrear Roll were merely arbitrary and could not be intended to fix what must in its nature be fluctuating

7 We have however approved of an Intention which they have Communicated to us of making the Exchange on such Certificates as they may grant in Future entirely determinable by this Government as your Hon'ble Court have been pleased to order in Regard to the Bills to be drawn on you for the Payment of the Bonded and other Debts at your several Residencies in India, and we have desired the President and Council at Bombay to adopt the same mode of Arrangement in regard to the rate of Exchange between Bengal and Bombay Rupees

8 As the Governor General's Plan for the Liquidation of the Military Arrears proposes the Provision of a separate Investment at the different Presidencies in India not exceeding eight Lacks of Rupees to be denominated the Military Arrear Debt Investment and to be a Fund for paying off such Bills as might be granted to those Holders of Bonds on account of Military Arrears who might prefer receiving an Interest of five Per Cent in England to the Interest of Eight Per Cent in India, we have informed the President and Council of Fort St George that our Resolution of the 16th Instant (which will be Communicated to you from the Publick Department) for paying the King's Troops on the Coast was to enable them to provide their Proportion of the Military Arrear Debt Investment as well as that which they have usually sent home

9 The President and Council at Bombay have been desired to draw on us for Such Proportion of the Investment of eight Lacks of Rupees as will be necessary to be furnished from their Presidency

10 You may be assured that any Bills drawn upon your Hon'ble Court in Consequence of the Plan before mentioned will be included within the Remittance authorized by you on the 15th Septemr 1785 as far as the amount of the said Bills is likely to exceed the separate Means which we employ to enable you to discharge it This Plan having been notified

in Bengal and at the other Presidencies long before the Receipt of your Commands of the 15th September and the Faith of Government pledged for it it could not properly be revoked

11 On the 14th of last month your President and Council at Fort St George transmitted to us sundry Extracts from their Proceedings on the Subject of a Detachment which they had formed on a Requisition from the Nabob Wallan Jau and placed under the Command of Colonel Sir Henry Cosby The object of this Detachment was the Chastisement of refractory Poligars in the Province of Tinnevely from whom it was stated to be impossible to procure the Payment of their Peshcush without the aid of a Military Force. The Disaffection of these Poligars was represented to be in some degree hereditary since it had been found necessary to station a strong Force in the Tinnivelly Province in the Time of Former Sonbadars of the Carnatic as well as in that of the Father of the present Nabob Wallau Jaw, who had employed a formidable Body of Troops for a similar Purpose.

12. Your President and Council appear to have been well aware of the bad Consequences which might result from the Collection of Peshcush by a Military Force since it might alienate the Poligars from any attachment to the Nabobs Government when otherwise they might be well disposed to it but as a refusal to comply with the Nabobs request would furnish his Highness with a Plea for Nonperformance of his Engagements, and as they had an entire Confidence in the Moderation and Prudence of Sir Henry Cosby from whose Character they hoped that the Service might be performed without creating the Disaffection which was apprehended they resolved to comply with the Nabobs Wishes.

13 Colonel Sir Henry Cosby who commanded the Detachment for the Tinnivelly Service was instructed to act in conjunction with the Nabob's Pheuzdar Eltabar Cawn, whom he was however to be particularly careful to support in Demands of a just Nature only He was also instructed to use every possible means to adjust the Business without proceeding to acts of Violence and on no account to allow the Company's Troops to be made the Instruments of Exaction and oppression

14 From the latest Accounts with which we have been furnished we are happy to learn that there was Prospect of the refractory Poligars returning to their Duty without Bloodshed yet as we considered the measure of forming the Detachment as reprehensible especially as it was adopted without any Reference to our Authority and because the Emergency did not appear to require instant Decision we could not avoid expressing our Astonishment at the Length of Time which had been suffered to elapse before we received any Intimation of the Measure for it was agreed to on the 9th of November and no Communication was made of it to this Government untill the 14th of last month yet your Servants at Fort St. George must have been apprized of the obligations of the late Act of Parliament which require a Speedy Communication of such Measures to the Governor General and Council.

15. The Accounts which have been sent to us by the President and Council at Fort St George concerning this Detachment and our Letter to that Presidency in Consequence appear on our Proceedings of the 8th Instant

16 In our advise of the 25th of October last we had the Honor to communicate to you the Success of our Interposition with Mahajee Sindia to procure for the Nabob of Surat the Restitution of the Mogai Revenue of the Pergunnah of Ourpes, of which he had been unjustly deprived by a Sunnud from Shaw Allum in favor of Baboo Shiddio.

17 We have the Pleasure to acquaint you that the Nabob has since addressed the Governor General in Term strongly expressive of the Sense which he entertains of our Friendship on the Occasion

18 Your President and Council at Bombay have represented to us the continued Friendly Behaviour, and the unremitted attachment of the King of Travencore to the Interest of the Hon'ble Company, in proof of which he had agreed to furnish them with a Quantity of Pepper for your Ships of the present Season, altho' they had not the Means of paying for it but by a considerable Increase to the large Balance before due to him, and they expressed their Wish that the Exigencies of our own Government might soon admit of our enabling them to discharge this Balance

19 So sensible were we of the sincerity of the Attachment of the King of Travencore that we deemed the Company's Credit engaged to liquidate his Claims as soon as possible, and we have accordingly authorized your President and Council at Bombay to draw on us in Certificates in Conformity to our late Regulations for the amount which they might borrow to discharge this Balance, provided the Relief afforded to them by the late Orders of your Hon'ble Court of the 15th September did not enable them to pay it from their own Resources.

20 The President and Council at Bombay having transmitted to us a Letter which had been addressed to them by Mr Hutchinson, their Resident at Anjengo in Vindication of his Conduct respecting the Transmission of some Intelligence which appeared to have been fabricated on the Malabar Coast, as mentioned in the Governor General's Minute of the ninth April last forwarded to your Hon'ble Court with our advices by the Swallow, we have assured them that we are perfectly satisfied with that Gentleman's Conduct on the Occasion and that we freely acquit him of any improper View or Intention whatever in communicating the confounded Intelligence which Mr Hutchinson had transmitted

21 On the 16 of last month a Letter was addressed to us by the Insurer of a Vessel called the Rodney Snow, belonging to this Port It stated that the Vessel had been forced by stress of Weather into the Port of Rencatghery on the Malabar Coast in the Month of August last on her Passage from Bombay to China, and that she was detained there by the Maratta Governor under some Pretence, as they then understood, of her having been stranded, and they requested that we would take measures for procuring the Release of the Vessel, which with her Stores was valued

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14 From the latest Accounts with which we have been furnished we are happy to learn that there was Prospect of the refractory Poligars returning to their Duty without Bloodshed yet as we considered the measure of forming the Detachment as reprehensible especially as it was adopted without any Reference to our Authority and because the Emergency did not appear to require instant Decision we could not avoid expressing our Astonishment at the Length of Time which had been suffered to elapse before we received any Intimation of the Measure for it was agreed to on the 9th of November and no Communication was made of it to this Government until the 11th of last month yet your Servants at Fort St. George must have been apprized of the obligations of the late Act of Parliament which require a Speedy Communication of such Measures to the Governor General and Council

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at thirty thousand Rupees independent of her Cargo

22 As the Conduct of the Maratta Governor on this Occasion appeared to be in direct Contradiction to the 11th Article of the Treaty of Salbey, which Stipulates that the Vessel of each (the English and the Peshwa) shall afford no Disturbance to the Navigation of the Vessels of the other and that the Vessels of each shall be allowed Access to the Ports of the other where they shall meet with no Molestation and the fullest Protection shall be reciprocally afforded we directed our Resident with Mahajee Sindia to make application to that Chief for the Exertion of his Influence to procure the immediate Release of the Rodney and her Cargo and at the same time desired the President & Council at Bombay to make a Similar application at Poona

23 We have since received an authentic Narrative of the Circumstances attending this Event from the President and Council at Bombay It is contained in a Protest made before a notary Public by the Agent to the Owner of the Vessel and in the Evidence upon Oath of a Passenger and one of the Seamen who had been permitted to return to Bombay

24 From the Account given by these Persons and the Letters of the Commander it appears that the Port into which the Rodney was forced was Gheriah where she was seized by order of the Maratta Governor Gungather Pundit and the Captain Officers Passengers and European Seamen were carried on Shore and closely confined

25 The Governor of Bombay had made application to the Peshwa for the Release of the Lord Rodney early in October but had received no Answer on the date of our last advice He meant however to repeat his Efforts to procure Redress altho' without any sanguine Hopes of immediate Success as a Vessel belonging to a principal Merchant at Tellicherry which was seized last year at Gheriah has not been delivered up altho repeated Orders to that Effect have been sent from Poona.

26 Copies of our Advices from Bombay on this Subject and of the Papers which accompanied them have been transmitted to Lieutenant Anderson with positive Instructions to desire the good offices of Mahajee Sindia in taking the earliest and most effectual Measures for obtaining the Restitution of the Vessel and the Return of the Prisoners as well as the necessary Reparation for the Loss and Damage sustained by the Conduct of Gungather Pundit to remonstrate to Sindia such Infringements of the 11th Article of the Treaty of Salbey by any Subject of the Maratta States and to concert the best probable means of preventing them in future

27 The Governor General has also addressed the Peshwa and his Ministers on the Subject as the Conduct of Gungather Pundit has probably not been warranted by the Sanction of the Government of Poona we doubt not but we shall be able to obtain Satisfaction for this violation of the Treaty

28 Lieutenant Anderson has informed us that he lost no Time in representing the Circumstances of this affair to Sindia as stated in our first Accounts received from the Insurers of the Vessel explaining to him at the

same time the Observation we had made that even on the Supposition of the Vessel being a Wreck no right was thereby established to her detention, since the contrary is expressly provided for by the 14th Article of the Treaty of Poona and we have the Pleasure to acquaint you that Sindia entirely acquiesced in these Sentiments and assured Mr. Anderson that, besides furnishing him with a Letter on the Subject to Nana to be delivered by Mi Malet, he would likewise write to him by his own Conveyance requiring him to cause the Vessel and Cargo to be immediately released and cautioning him against the admission of any Excuse or Evasion whatever

29 We had the Honor to acquaint you in our last advices that we had resolved on carrying the appointment of Mi Malet as Resident at Poona into immediate Execution and that Sindia had at length become as desirous of its taking Place as he had formerly been averse to it We have Since understood from Mi Anderson that he had communicated to Sindia such Parts of our Instructions to Mi Malet as regard the Preservation of the Peace and Friendship already established between the Company and the Maratta Government and the Attention which we have Enjoined him to pay on all Occasions to Mahajee Sindia from the particular Relation in which he stands to both Governments Sindia has expressed himself extremely well pleased with these Instructions and has informed Mr Anderson that Nana had in a Letter lately received, intimated his wish that Mr Malet might proceed as soon as possible to Poona

30 Sindia at the Same time wrote a Letter to Mr Malet expressive of his friendly Sentiments, and requested that Mr Anderson would communicate his wish to Mr Malet, that altho' we might not have directed him to give any assurances to the Peshwa's Ministers of the aid of Troops desired for their Defence against Tippoo, Yet that, in Case of this Question being proposed, he might give Nana such an Answer as might still induce him to hope for it

31 The Intrigues of the French Agent, Mr Montigny, at the Court of Poona have been mentioned in our late Despatches Since the Date of these the Governor General has received a Letter from Mahajee Sindia, acquainting him that Mr Montigny had proffered to the Peshwa the Assistance of his Nation in the contest with Tippoo Sultan, and threatened, in the Event of a Refusal, that they would unite with the Adversaries of the Maratta State Sindia therefore desired that we would interfere to prevent an Alliance between the French and Tippoo Sultan, and give our Sanction to the Maratta Government to employ the French
Troops in their Service against Tippoo A Copy of
Cons. 7th Jany.

Mahajee Sindia's Letter to the Governor General on this occasion attends you a Number in the Packet and, altho' the object of it is to obtain our Concurrence on their employing French Troops to their own Benefit, it is Mr Anderson's Opinion that the Request was dictated solely by the despair of Assistance from us, and that we may rely, in as far as depends on Mahajee Sindia on a stop being put to this Connection, should

we think proper to give him such assurances as may satisfy him that the Marattas will eventually be no Losers by this Instance of their Friendship for the English.

32 A Paper of Intelligence from Poona which has been lately transmitted to us by Mr Anderson, mentions that Monar Montigny after
 Cons. 7th Jan'y having received very great attention from Nana Furna
 veese had set out for Goa to meet a General from Pondi
 cherry that he had received from the Peshwa at his Departure a Khelant,
 Surpetch and Jegah and the same from Nann and Hurry Pundit, that
 such marks of attention had never been shewn to him before that Nana
 had supplied him with Horsemen Chubdars Silver Sticks and other
 Necessaries for his Journey as well as a Horse and some fine Cloths for the
 General that Montigny had promised that the French should join the
 Marrattas who were to allow them a Share of the Country their joint
 Forces might conquer from Tippoo and to make them a Grant of a Seaport
 near Bombay such as Rewah Dundah the Marrattas agreeing also to
 pay the whole Expence of the Troops sent by the French to their
 Assistance

33 The Circumstances contained in this Intelligence having been
 noticed by Lieutenant Anderson to Mahajee Sindia he has given us the
 strongest Assurances that he will never suffer Nana to enter into any such
 Connection with the French as may be deemed a Violation of the Treaty
 with the English and desired that we would be perfectly at Ease on the
 score of the present Report as he knew that Nana was only amusing the
 French to intimidate Tippoo and was certain that the Peshwa would as
 soon yield Poona to the French as the Port of Rewah Dundah

34 The repeated and pressing solicitations which we had received
 from the Peshwa, Sindia and Moodajee Boosla and the Accounts which had
 reached us of the Negotiations carrying on by the French at Poona render
 ed it necessary that we should give the Peshwa and Sindia more explicit
 assurances of our Support than those hitherto afforded them for in the
 Event of the Admn of Poona being pressed by Tippoo they might other
 wise be induced to accept the offers of the Government of Pondicherry

35 Under these Circumstances the Governor General informed us
 on the 14th Instant that he had prepared a Minute which he intended to
 have laid before us expressive of his sentiments in regard to the Answer
 which should be given to the applications of the Peshwa The Answer was
 proposed to contain General assurances that we would not remain idle
 Cons. 14th Feb'y should we see him pressed by his Enemies, but that orders
 should be sent for the Troops of Bombay to assist the
 Peshwa a Government should be want them for the Defence of his Towns
 and Districts the Peace established between Tippoo and the English
 rendering it impossible that the English should send troops against him into
 his own Country

36 A copy of the Governor General's Minute and of another which
 accompanied it attend you Numbers in the Packet.

37 Your Honble Court will observe that an alteration in the Governor General's Propositions as appears in his last Minute, was a
 Consn. 8th Feby Consequence of Accounts which had reached us, and which
 Consn 14th Feby we had every Reason to consider as authentic confirming
 a Report which had obtained Credit at Fort St George
 and at this Presidency that the Nabob Tippoo Sultan had been killed in
 Action, and that the Regency of his Dominions had been taken Charge of by
 Kurrim Saib and the son of Meer Saib, who continued to push on the Seige
 of a Fort called Oralapally, where they had gained considerable advantages.

38 As this Event might have the Consequence of impressing the
 Mariattas differently from what was intended in their Estimation of the
 Proposal which the Governor General had, before his knowledge of the
 Event, wished to make to them with the approbation of the Board he
 thought it expedient to alter the Terms of the reply which he had proposed
 should be sent to the Peshwa's applications, and to Substitute for it the
 following assurance Vizt That having heard of the great Preparations of
 Tippoo against the Maratta Dominions he had desired the Vakiels of the
 Peshwa, Sindia, and Moodajee Boosla to attend him in the 26th of last
 December, and had acquainted them that it was the Determination of the
 English Nation not only to Support their Connection with the Peshwa, but
 to improve it in every way that could be satisfactory to him and his Chiefs,
 that Mr Malet had been deputed to his Court for the Purpose of Settling
 more particular Arrangements, that Orders should be forthwith given to the
 Government of Bombay to send whatever Troops he wished to his Assis-
 tance tho' by the Peace subsisting between the English and Tippoo Sultan,
 those Troops could not be employed to make war in his Country, that we
 were also determined to support Nizam Ally Cawn according to the Terms
 of the Treaty and that his Highness had received assurances of this two
 Months before

39. The Proposition contained in the Governor General's Minute
 having met with our unanimous Concurrence, Letters have been written
 in the Terms which he recommended to the Peshwa and Nana Furnaveese,
 and the Substance of them has also been communicated to Mahajee Sindia
 and Moodajee Boosla

40 Nothing but the Precaution which the state of Public Affairs
 rendered necessary to preserve the Peace of India could have induced us
 to make the Declarations above mentioned to the administration of Poona
 The Death of Tippoo opened a very dangerous Field for the Operation of
 the Intrigues of the French, and had we remained quiet Spectators in such a
 Scene, and on the one Hand permitted the French to make an Alliance with
 the Marattas, while the Marattas, had by their offers afforded us the Means
 of preventing it, or if on the other Hand we had neglected to secure our-
 selves by strengthening our Connection with the Marrattas against the
 probable Consequences of French Influence in the Mysore Country, we
 should have neglected a very favorable Occasion of securing your Influence
 in India,

41 We still hope that the Marrattas will not require our Aid and that our *Professions of Friendship* which they will of course make public, will be sufficient for their Purpose Mr Malet's management and address will be employed to delay the Requisition for Troops as long as he can without hazarding the Consequences which our offer of assistance was intended to prevent but if such Requisition should be pressed, the Government of Bombay have our Instructions to agree to it to the Extent of three Battalions of Sepoys under the Express Stipulation that they shall not be employed to act offensively against the Mysore Government or for any purpose but the security of the Peshwa's Person or of any of the Forts within his own Dominions an Agreement is also to be adjusted with the Peshwa and his Ministers for the Pay of the Troops to be sent to the Marratta Country but they are not to be actually detached till that Agreement shall have been ratified by this Government You may rest assured that we shall not ratify such Agreement but in the Case of absolute Necessity

42 At the same Time that we have resolved upon these Measures, that nothing in our Power may be wanting to preserve the Peace of India, and to prevent the Influence of a Rival European Power from being established in the Mysore Country where the Force which they might acquire as Principals or Allies in the Mysore Government would greatly endanger the safety of the Carnatic we have thought it expedient to recommend to the Government of Fort St George that in the event of Tippoo's Death being certain they should depute a Servant of the Company of Experience and abilities as their Minister to the Government of Mysore and for any professed [sic] Purpose which may appear to them most plausible but with the real View of advising them of the Occurrences which have happened or are likely to happen from Tippoo's Death and to watch and as far as may be possible by address to counteract the Designs of the French but without implicating the Company's Government in any Promise or Engagement that could involve them in War

43 Copies of the Letters which we have written on the foregoing Subject to the Peshwa and his Ministers to the Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay as well as to Mr Malet and Lieutenant Anderson are transmitted numbers in the Packet for your more particular Information

44 The first Official Accounts which we received of the Death of Tippoo Sultan were contained in a Letter from Colonel
 Comm. 8 Feby Nixon at Vellore to the Secretary of the President and Council at Fort St George under date the 11th January and these stated the Event as no longer doubtful with him or indeed with any one else. A confirmative of it in the most positive Terms was afterwards
 Comm. 14 Feby received in a Letter from the Nabob Walla Jah of the 21th January to the Governor of Fort St George but as accounts from other Parts of the Country of a very late Date are totally silent on the Occasion we have some Reason to apprehend that the

Report may be unfounded.

45. By advices which we have just received from the Chief and Council at Tellicherry bearing Date the 14th of January (Copy of which we have the Honor to forward a Number in the Packet) we learn that the Gentlemen in charge of your Affairs at the Presidency were apprehensive of an immediate Attack from the Prince of Cherika, which altho' it was not to be openly countenanced by Tippoo Sultan, they had secret and good Intelligence, was to be formed by his Instigation The Prince had made a formal demand upon your Chief at Tellicherry for the Surrender of the District of Randoterialah, and had offered to discharge the Amount of the Bond due by the Achamars or Head People of the Province, whom he at the same Time ordered to pay no more Revenue to the English The Reply made to this Demand from the Prince of Cherika was that it was not in the Powers of the Chief and Council, as he well knew, to give up the Province without the Sanction of the Government of Bombay, to whom a Copy of his Letter and the necessary Papers in regard to his Claim should be forwarded and that their Orders should be communicated to him immediately on their Arrival

46 We beg leave to refer you to Perusal of the Letter from the Gentlemen at Tellicherry for the further Information which was communicated to them in Regard to the designs harboured against them, and their Reasons for believing that these had the Concurrence of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan, but as we deem it improbable that, that Prince or his successors will openly espouse the cause of the Prince of Cherika at the Hazard of a Renewal of the War with the Company, we trust that it will be no difficult Task to convince the latter of the bad Policy of incurring the Resentment of the English Nation, by whom he has heretofore been protected

47. The Gentlemen at Tellicherry were taking every Precaution to prevent a Surprise, which their small Force would admit of It consisted of a Single Battalion of Sepoys and about 80 Europeans with about 1500 irregulars of the Inhabitants, a Force which they represent to be very inadequate to maintain their Lines of five Miles in Circumference on the Defence of which the Preservation of the Place depends.

48 We beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for an account of Sindia's Transactions in the Consn 17 Feby
Do. 8 Feby Neighbourhood of Dilhe since the Date of our last Advices His measures since the Capture of Allegur have been represented to us by Mr Anderson as more like the acts of a Plunderer than of a Chief, who had any regard for his name or reputation His Treatment of the unfortunate Family of Affrasiab Cawn has been noticed in our former dispatches, and, besides the Imprisonment of some of the principal Mogul Chiefs he has, on the Pretext of a Connection with them, taken an Opportunity of Plundering the few Mussalman Families of any Consequence that remained at Delhi

49 These measures have spread an universal Alarm, and have given rise it is said to a Confederacy for their mutual Support between the Row

Raja Mntcherry Walla Nudjeef Coolly Cawn and others of the Mogul Jagheerdars Should the Report of this Confederacy prove true Sindia will have more Serious difficulties to encounter than he ever had and at all Events his present Conduct promises to keep him involved in an indefinite Scene of Trouble

50 We have the Honor to transmit to you a Number in the Packet a Paper of News from Poona which has been forwarded to the Governor General by Mr Anderson

51 It contains an Account of the motions of the Maratta Army to the 17th January The Peshwa's Forces according to the Information which it contains amount to 40000 Horse and Foot exclusive of those with Moodnjees Boosla, and of Gardees and Pindarrees.

52 We have the Honor to refer you to our Proceedings of the 8th and 22d Instant for a Perusal of such Papers of Intel
 Consn. 8 & 22 Feby ligence lately received from Hydrabad as have been put upon record. Copies of those which have not yet been entered upon our Proceedings are transmitted to you a number in the Packet.

53 Our former Advices have communicated to you our Arrangements with the Naboh Vizier for the Fussulee Year 1194. The Balance due from his Excellency at the End of the Month of January was fyzd 16 San Sicca Rupees 20 23 703 11 3

54. The Expence of the Kholnats which we deemed it advisable to
 Consn. 8 Feby give to the Ministers of the Vizier and to the Bankers who were Securities for the Discharge of the Amount Stipulated to be paid to the Company in the Course of the late Fussulee Year as mentioned in our last Dispatches was Lw Sa. Rs 20 58 5 2

55 Messrs Isaacs and Lyons two Jew Merchants who resided at Lucknow having some Time since absconded much in Debt and having left a Considerable Property behind them the Governor General's Agent requested Instructions for his Guidance in the Disposal of it as the Naboh Vizier was unwilling to interfere in the Affair on account of the Claims of many British Subjects being involved with those of his own. The Circumstances having been stated to the Advocate General and his opinion received on the Question Submitted to him it was transmitted to Colonel Harper but as there was no British Subject at Lucknow who was not either a Debtor or Creditor to the Estate the mode of adjustment recommended by Sir Jas Day was found to be impracticable and Colonel Harper was therefore under the necessity of applying to us a second Time for our Instructions.

56 As the Flight of the Jew Merchants was from the Dominions of the Naboh Vizier it certainly belonged to him to determine how the Effects should be disposed of and apportioned to the several Creditors but if his Excellency should still decline deciding upon the Subject by his own Authority we recommended it to Colonel Harper to propose that the Naboh should vest him with Powers to Summon a meeting of the Creditors who should appoint a Committee to take Charge of the Effects and

determine, under his Excellency's Orders how they should be disposed of cautioning him however at the same time to take particular Care that the Company should not be considered or implicated in the Transaction and that no Act should be done which could possibly subject them to a Prosecution on Account of it

57 The two Merchants have been lately seized in Sindia's Dominions and are probably now returned to Lucknow

58 The Nabob Vizier having declined a Compliance with the Application which was made to him for the Arriars of the Pension which were stated to be due to Meer Mahomed Husseign and the Continuance of it in future, our Secretary has been directed to refer to the best Evidence which can be obtained on the Subject, and particularly to the Signature of the late Governor General, which is said to have procured the Continuance of it As soon as the necessary Information can be procured, the Circumstance will be again stated to the Nabob Vizier, who will be requested to reconsider Meer Mahomed Husseign's application

59. In the Course of the month of January last Information was given to Colonel Harper that two French Officers were on their Route, thro' the Vizier's Territories, and intended to proceed to Delhi, in Consequence of which he took immediate measures to have them stopped, and they were accordingly secured at Etayah and brought under Custody to Lucknow On their Examination they declared, that being totally destitute of Employ and the means of Subsisting in the Provinces, they had left Calcutta with Intention of taking Service at Delhi by means of a Mons Du Van who as they understood, was a man of some Influence in the Service of the Emperor As they had no Pass or Authority from the English Government, and as Colonel Harper concured it repugnant to our Interest to allow Foreigners to establish themselves in any Part of the Country, we determined that they should be detained at Lucknow untill our Pleasure should be known We have however directed him to state our Opinion to the Nabob Vizier that they should be released on Condition of their removing themselves immediately from his Excellency's Dominions

60 Your Hon'ble Court have been already informed of the Desertion of a Battalion of Sepoys from the Service of Mahajee Sindia, and that they had taken Refuge in the Dominions of the Nabob Vizier You have also been advised of the Instructions which were given to Colonel Harper on this Occasion to recommend it to his Excellency not to take the Battalion into his Service, and to endeavour to prevail on them to return on a Promise of Pardon, but, even if they should not be disposed to return, to cause the Guns and firelocks to be restored to Sindia at all Events The Vizier has however declined complying with this Recommendation on the Plea that the Battalion had deserted originally from his Service at the Time when his Brother Saudit Ally put himself under the Protection of Nudjeeff Cawn, as stated in the Commandant's Letter to the Vizier on his arrival in his Excellency's Dominions.

Consn 8th Feby

61 The Minting which some time since took Place in the Corps attached to the Person of the Prince Mirza Jewan Bukht at Lucknow having rendered it advisable that an European Officer should be placed about his Highness Person we have resolved that Captain Consa 8th Feby Granby Sloper shall be permitted to proceed to Lucknow to be stationed about the Shah Zada in such Situation and Command as the Vizier may think proper to give him and as the Peace of Lucknow and the Security of the Company's Servants there with the Company's accounts and Cash were much exposed during the late Disturbances Captain Macleod has been permitted to reassume the Command of the Battalion which he formerly commanded at Lucknow, and from which he was never regularly removed by this Government. Both these Measures which have been adopted in order to provide for the Internal Security of his Excellency's Capital will be agreeable [to] the Nabob Vizier

62 Colonel Harper having stated in his Letter to the Governor General of the 25th of October last which was transmitted to you by the Intelligence Packet that on a Representation from the Vizier's Ministers that the Revenue was much injured by the Monopoly of Saltpetre he had absolutely given up all Pretensions to it nor would employ any Agent to make or purchase a single maund that the Monopoly had been so long attached to the Office of Resident as to be looked on as a Perquisite of Right and that when he gave it up he knew he parted with 20 000 £ Sterling Per Annum Major Palmer who preceeded Colonel Harper in the Office of Agent to the Governor General at Lucknow has thought it incumbent on him to assure us that this Computation in so far as it relates to himself is exceedingly magnified and erroneous and that the Profit which he made last Season upon the Article of Saltpetre did not amount to quite 40 000 Current Rupees What it may amount to this Season Major Palmer cannot exactly ascertain as a considerable Quantity is yet undisposed of but he acquaints us that he can safely affirm that it will be with in 50 000 Current Rupees

A Copy of Major Palmer's Letter is at his request transmitted to you a Number in the Packet

63 Some Disputes having arisen between our Resident at Furruckabad and Colonel Sir John Cumming while the Colonel was in Command of the Detachment stationed at Futtigur respecting the Ghauts which were directed to be restored to the Nabob Mozuffer Jung by Our orders of the 25th of June last we have the Honor to refer you for a Perusal of the Papers regarding them to our Proceedings noted in the Margin

64 Mr Francis Fowke having on the 26th of December last desired our Permission to resign his Station of Resident at Benares Consa 17th Jany for the Purpose of returning to Europe he was informed that a Person would be appointed to succeed to the Residency but that as considerable Balances were due of the Benares Revenue it would be necessary for Mr Fowke before he resigned his office, to explain the Nature of

these and the Reasons of their being outstanding, and to take the necessary measures to secure their Payment We at the same Time directed the Accountant General to lay before us a Statement of these Balances calculating the same from the last Accounts received from the Resident

65 Mr Thomas Graham, who had formerly held the office of Resident at Benares, submitted to us his Pretensions to succeed to it on Mr. Fowke's Resignation Mr Graham's Letter on this subject attends you at his request, a Number in this Dispatch

66 The Governor General proposed on the 17th ultimo that Mr James Grant Senior should be appointed to succeed to the Residency at Benares when it should be vacated by Mr Fowke, and we agreed to take this Proposition into Consideration at our next Meeting

67 The amount of the Balance due from the Raja agreeably to an Account laid before us by the Sub Accomptant General on the 25th of January was Benares Sicca Rupees 11,91,759 1 on Account of the three years A 1191, B 1192, and C 1193. Mr Benn, the Assistant to the Resident, arriving in Calcutta at the Time when this account was under Investigation he was called before the Board, and desired to explain how the Balances had arisen

68 From Mr Benns Account it appeared that the Balance of Rupees 4,3,000 stated to be due on Account of the Rajah's Kist for Bhadoon 1191 was occasioned by the Removal of the Naib Baboo Jugger Deo Singh from Office Mr Benn observed that the Accomptant General had taken no notice of the Sum of Benares Rupees 1,1,2512 granted in Remission to the Raja in February 1784, which, if agreed to for the following year, would reduce the Balance of 1191 to Rupees 3,17,488 He remarked that the Report of Jugged Deo Sing's removal being circulated some Time before it took place, his Influence over the Different Farmers of Course ceased as well as theirs also in the different Farms Mr Benn represented to us that altho' he thought the recovery of this Sum doubtful he was far from considering it as unobtainable

69 The Second Sum of Rupees 2,11,759 1 on account of the Year 1192 is stated by Mr Benn to be the Amount of Deductions claimed by the Raja, and not yet determined on by us, and that only such part of it as we may not think justly due to the Raja can be considered as a Balance

70 The third Article in the Sub Accomptant General's Statement is a Balance of Rupees 2,10,000 on Account of the Rajah's Kist for Cautick This Mr Benn imagined had been already received, and indeed we afterwards had advice that it actually had been so the 4th and last Sum of 3,40,000 due on account of the Kist of Aughun would in that Gentleman's Opinion be certainly paid within the Time It has since been paid together with Part of the Kist for Poos

71 Your Hon ble Court will be pleased to observe in respect to the Deductions allowed to the Raja of Benares in February 1784 that they were founded on the Agreement made with him by your late Governor General. Those now claimed are of a similar Nature being for the most part for Jagheers and allowances bestowed on persons deemed to have a Claim to the Company's Support, or they are a Compensation for the Loss of Duties which were received by the late Raja Chist Sing and which on the Settlement of the Zamindari in 1781 were found improper to be continued. The deductions claimed by the Raja of Benares are not therefore similar in their nature to those claimed by other Zamindars and these we are determined never to allow nor can the admission of the former be properly considered as the Act of this Government which is bound by Mr Hastings's Agreements with the Raja especially as those Agreements were concluded in Virtue of Powers then vested in him by the Board.

72 Mr James Grant having understood that Mr Graham had made application to succeed to Benares, and submitted Accounts and Agreements to the Board in Support of his Pretensions by which Mr Grant conceived that he might be injured unheard he reminded the Governor General of the Historical Accounts of the Revenues of that Country which he had presented many Months ago and he requested that they might be laid before the Board that his attention to this object and Information might be recorded in his Support The Governor General will comply with Mr Grant's wishes.

73 On the 25th of last month we took into Consideration the Governor General's Proposition of the 17th that Mr James Grant Senior be appointed to succeed to the Residency of Benares when it should be vacated by Mr Fowke The Proposition was agreed to but not with the Concurrence of Mr Stables who delivered it as his Opinion that Mr Graham's local Knowledge and Abilities would be better employed at Benares than in the Committee of Revenue where there was a Member serving without any Salary and waiting for the first Vacancy Mr Stables was further influenced to this opinion because Mr Graham's appointment to Benares was the last request made by the late Sir Eyre Coote who had good opportunities of Judging of Mr Graham's Merits in that Station which he filled for three years

74 Mr Grant proceeded to Benares in Consequence of his appointment and Mr Fowke delivered over Charge of the Residency to him on the 5th Instant Mr Grant has since made a Remittance to the Presidency of Calcutta Sixty Rupees 1,38,248 13

75 On the 8th of December last a Proposition was submitted to us by the Comptroller of the Salt Department for purchasing all the Salt Manufactured in the Maratta Districts near Ballasore for the Purpose of putting a stop to the Contraband Trade by which a great Quantity of this Salt had been introduced into the Provinces through the Western jungles Mr Vanantart's Letter was accompanied by a written Agreement which he had drawn up and presented to the Maratta Vakeel Bismamber Pundit

who had acceded to the Proposition and signed an Agreement by which all the Salt Boilers and Contractors were subjected to the orders of our Resident at Balasore, and the Subjects of the Maratta State were precluded from selling any Salt to any Person except him

76 As we placed an implicit Reliance on the Discretion of Mr Vansittart and were confident that he would not abuse the Trust which we reposed on him, we authorized him to adopt such Arrangements for the Purchase as he might deem most beneficial to the Company and most for their Interests, leaving it also to him to settle the Allowance that should be given to the Resident on this Account, but directing him to report his final Arrangements to us before he should carry them into Execution

77 Mr Vansittart having been fully persuaded of the utility of the Measure, which he had recommended, has accordingly completed the arrangements, and communicated them to us in a Letter to
 Consn 17th Jany which we beg leave to refer, and which is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin

78 The Governor General having laid before us a letter which was addressed to him by Lieutenant Samuel Turner containing an Account of the Reception given lately at Teshoo Lamboo to Poorungeer Gosseyn, who had at Different Times been employed in Deputations to the late Teeshoo Lama, we beg leave to forward a Copy of it a number in the Packet, as the Information which it contains is not only interesting in a Commercial View of it but merits the public Attention as a matter of Historical Curiosity

79. Mr Richard Johnson who lately held the Station of Resident on the Part of this Government at the Court of the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn having addressed us on the 16th of August last respecting his
 Consn 15th Dec accounts from the 1st February the Period of their former adjustment, to the 15th August, when the entire charge of the Residency ceased by the paying off and final Discharge of the Guard on that day, these were taken into Consideration on the 15th of December, and some parts of them were then passed and others referred to the Audit of the Accountant General, whose
 Consn 14th Feby. Report on the Subject of them, with a Second Letter from Mr. Johnson, in further Explanation of the Different Articles which compose them appear on our Proceedings noted in the Margin As we were fully persuaded of the Propriety of Mr Johnson's Charges and as it appeared that altho' some exceeded those made by Mr Holland, others were inferior to them, we resolved on the 14th Instant that such Parts of Mr. Johnson's Accounts should be passed as were not passed on the 15th December, and that the Balance of the Account being Sa Rs 33,289 9 6 should be paid by the Buxey.

Fort William,
 28th February, 1786.

We have the Honor to be &c.

LETTER DATED 28 FEBRUARY 1786

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Reductions in the charges of Revenue Department—discharge of demands on treasury—plan for the liquidation of Company's debt

To the Hon ble the Court of Directors

Hon ble Sirs

We have the honor to forward to you by your Ship Deptford the broken sett of our proceedings in this Department from the 27th December 1785 the period to which they were last transmitted to you by the Rodney to the 14th of the present month.

2 Our General Letter by the Rodney was dated the 9th ultimo and has been dispatched in Quadruplicate We addressed you afterwards on the 27th by the King George

3 We acquainted you in our address of the 27th Ultimo with a reduction which we had effected in your Military Expences
 Consn
 16th January by striking off the Tent Allowance granted to Officers of the Sepoy Corps for providing their own Camp Equipage and by reverting to the former practice of supplying them with Camp Equipage and Carriage for it at the Company's Expence

4 Having left it to the Commander in Chief to appoint a proper person to provide and feed the Elephants for the Carriage of this Camp Equipage and to defray every contingency attending the service at an expence not exceeding that stated in the Estimate which the General had laid before us for reforming this branch of expence the Commander in Chief acquainted us that he had appointed Mr Edward Whitwell to this Duty
 Consn.
 25th January

5 It was proposed by the Commander in Chief that an agreement should be made with Mr Whitwell who had undertaken to perform this service upon the plan which secured the proposed saving to the Company we resolved in consequence that there should be a legal Engagement between the Company and Mr Whitwell which should conform to the General's propositions and to the resolutions which we had passed Mr Whitwell giving proper security for the due performance of it and being liable to the penalty usually required from other Contractors for any Military Service We agreed that Engagement should be for three years subject however to the revocation of the Court of Directors and subject to the Revocation of the Board If on any change of System they should think it advisable to annul the said Engagement but in these cases it was resolved that Mr Whitwell's expence should be defrayed so that he should not suffer actual loss. We also resolved that the Company should purchase the Elephants

provided by Mr. Whitwell, whenever his Engagement should cease on a fair valuation of them.

6 Our further Resolutions in respect to this Engagement are recorded on our proceedings of the 25th Ultimo
 Consn 25th January

7 You will be pleased to observe that the ground of these resolutions is a reduction in your Expences, and that the measures adopted must, in order to take effect, be founded in Occonomy

8 We had the honor to acquaint you in the 12th, 13th, 14th & 15th Paragraphs of our General Letter of the 9th Ultimo that, in consequence of a representation made to us by the Accountant General, we had directed the Committee of Revenue to amend the report which they had laid before us of a proposed reduction in the Revenue Charges, in conformity to your orders of the 11th April 1785, so as to make it include several expences for which they had not before provided Their amended report is entered, with the Minutes of their Members, on our Proceedings of the 14th Instant when we took the same into consideration with an adjusted Account which had been laid before us by the Accountant General and the Accountant to the Revenue Department This adjusted Account exhibited the reductions which, according to the statement transmitted to you by the Swallow and Intelligence, should take place in the Revenue Expences in consequence of your Orders before mentioned.

9 Our Emendations of the Committee's second report and our remarks upon the reductions are transmitted to you, with the statements of the two Accountants, Numbers in this dispatch

10 The Committee of Revenue have been instructed to correct their report according to our remarks and resolutions, and according to the statement delivered in by the two Accountants and as it appears by that statement (due regard being had to the spirit of your orders of the 11th April 1785 which makes it necessary to include within the sum of 72 Lacks all contingencies connected with the Collection of the Revenue) that such Contingencies cannot be rated at a less annual Sum than five Lacks of Rupees, the surplus expence to be yet reduced amounts to Rupees 6,94,198 0 8

11. Not to have included every probable contingent expence within the sum prescribed by your orders for the whole Annual Expence of the Revenue Department would have been an inattention to your Commands We daily experienced the inconveniencies which had arisen from a want of Established Limits against the Tide of former Expences, and we as often see the salutary consequences of possessing little latitude in such points.

12 The Committee have been required to report upon the further reduction already mentioned and we have directed that the reductions and alterations actually resolved on in the charges of the Revenue Department shall all take place from the first day of next month, excepting those for which periods have been expressly fixed in our remarks, and which of course are to have affect at those particular periods The indulgence arising from this delay is but a small compensation for the severity of the Reform

against those who are necessarily affected by it

13 The difference between the last Reduction proposed in the amended report of the Committee of Revenue, and the sum of Rupees 4 42 000 proposed to be reduced on the 14th October is to be deducted from the 1st of next month by a Per centage upon all Revenue Salaries and Establishments whatsoever

14 As the Dewans at Calcutta and in the Districts of Purneah, Houghly and Patcheat, receive at present larger allowances than the Dewans in the other districts and as it appeared proper to us and according to the principles of our late reductions that the several allowances of the Dewans should be levelled to the same sum we have ordered that they be severally fixed without exception at 160 Rupees P Mensem

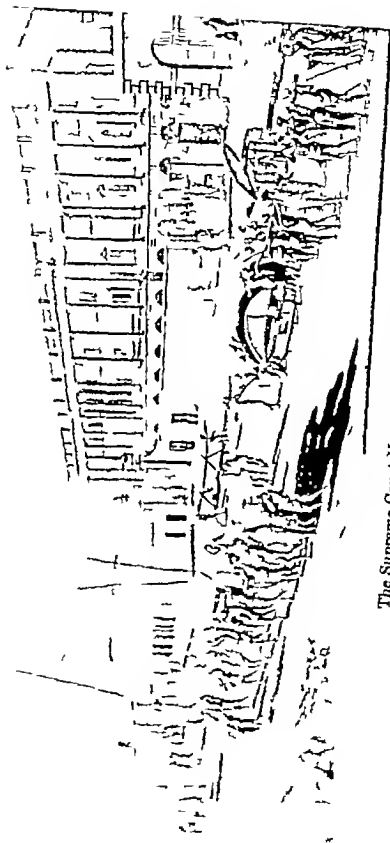
15 The allowances granted to your Servants who are assistants to the Revenue Chiefs and Collectors varying in their several amounts, which were not formerly intended to exceed 300 Rupees P Mensem respectively we have directed that the monthly allowances granted to all such assistants be fixed at this sum.

16 We have ordered the Accountant General to report upon the present Expence of the Civil List and exhibit the actual difference between such expence and the expence in 1776/7 with this report before us we shall be enabled to determine on the most practicable reductions that remain to be effected in your Civil charges and carry them into immediate execution

17 We think it proper to mention to you in this place the necessity which we are under of postponing the completion of those arrangements which are separate from the reforms ordered by your O [ourt] and carried into effect by us and which we* proposed to lay before you by the Ships of the present Season for the General regulation of your expences under this Government. The Season is now so far advanced that we despair of being able to finish them in the complete manner we wish in time to be dispatched in the course of it and many important duties which we have had to perform in our several Departments have so occupied our time that we had none to bestow upon this proposed extra service We trust however that this necessary delay [in] proposing final arrangements of reform will not [increase] the effect of the Intreaty which we presumed to [show] in favor of your Servants on this Establishment.

18 The Sub Treasurer having submitted to us an application made to him by Messrs. G[raham] Crommellin and Monbray that several Certificates in their hands for sums of Money paid into the Treasury [on] the remittance Loan intimated by our Advertizement [of the] 30th October 1783 20th February and 7th June 1784 [and of] which repayment in Bengal was claimed by the [] on the terms of Redemption which we offered on the 9th November 1784 after our receipt of your Commands of the 15th June 1784 might be received in subscription to our remittance Loan to be closed on the 1st of next month as advised in our Letter of 9th January 1786 we referred to our resolutions in the Public Department of the

See para 75th
Genl. Letter to
Europe dated
25th October



The Supreme Court House Calcutta 1787

9th November 1784 and observing our faith pledged to the holders of the Certificates before mentioned to allow them Bills in preference for the amount due to them when Bills should be hereafter granted on the Court of Directors, we complied with the application of Messrs. Graham, Crommelin, and Moubray, and directed a general compliance with similar wishes of other persons holding such Certificates, provided they intimated the same to our Secretary before the 14th of the present Month

19 On the 31st of last month we addressed a Letter to the Judges of the Supreme Court, in which we acquainted them that, having found it necessary to adopt one general and impartial rule for the discharge of the demands upon our Treasury due to Individuals, we informed the Public on the 20th December 1785 that the demands should be regularly discharged in future according to priority of date, and that an adherence to this rule put it out of our power to admit any longer of that preference which had heretofore been occasionally given to the orders granted in discharge of the Salaries of the Judges and Officers of the Supreme Court, we explained to them the motives for this regulation and assured ourselves that, as in their Individual Capacities they were equally Zealous with ourselves to promote the Public Welfare, and to restore the credit of the Government, on the prosperity of which the British Interests in India materially depended, our request would receive their ready concurrence and support and that they would agree to receive payment of their Salaries in the same manner and at the same time with those which had been granted by the same respectable authority and on the same terms to ourselves.

20. We are sorry to acquaint you that the Judges did not think proper to comply with our proposal, they observed that "it amounted in substance to a request that they should choose [one] of two Evils, either; by discounting their Paper to receive considerably less, than the Legislature [had] given them, or to borrow Money for the supply of their monthly Expences, the first of which they thought unreasonable, and the second [unbecoming ?] their stations. They acknowledged that we derive our right to our Salaries from the same high authority with themselves, but they observed [that] our situations were in many respects widely different from theirs, and that the terms which we had imposed on ourselves were consequently injurious, They remarked that no power on Earth could legally deprive them of their Pro[perty] without their own assent expressed by themselves or declared in Parliament, That the inconvenience already brought on them by repeated refusals from the Treasury to pay even a part of their [arrears ?] or of their Current Salaries could hardly be described, and the indignities to which they were daily and hourly exposed, thro' inability to support their several Establishments, must in all stations be vexatious, in their's intolerable, for, tho' equally Zealous with ourselves, as we justly supposed, for the restoration of Public Credit they could not be so romantic as to abandon all regard for their own."

21 The Judges therefore, Protested against our Intention to include them in our regulations which Intention if long formed, had been late declared to them who were most materially affected by it. Nevertheless to prevent the consequences of discussion which in their private Life, would be painful tho it would never influence their Public Conduct they were willing to make a temporary concession and if we would provide for the punctual monthly payment of half their Salaries and order speedy payment of half their Arrears so that their Current expences might, with rigid Oeconomy be supplied and their debts discharged they would on that condition acquiesce in the receipt of the other half for one twelve months on the terms which we proposed and, before we refused to comply with so just and moderate a requisition they intreated us to consider the consequences of that situation to which we would unnecessarily have reduced them

22 We have been thus particular in acquainting you with the answer sent by the Judges to our proposal that our conduct may be justified in your opinion for the offer which we made to them in reply It is immaterial to that reply at full length but it is necessary that we should inform you of a part of it.

23 We observed to the Judges it was not the magnitude of the sum of ready Money necessary to pay their Arrears and Salaries in Cash that could have any effect in deranging our general regulation and defeating the general benefits to be expected from it. It was the precedent that was to be avoided We remarked at the same time that if the Public Creditors understood that preference of payment, contrary to general regulation proceeded in favor of any Persons not from partiality or unsteadiness in Government but from necessity the inconvenience would be in a great measure removed Yet we could not agree to the proposition which they had been pleased to make of receiving half their Salaries and half their arrears in Cash for a limited time as it would be a relinquishment of their just rights resulting from our Regulations.

24 If Bills upon the Hon ble Company for the amount of the Arrears and the yearly amount of the Salaries of the three Judges should be acceptable to them we have declared ourselves ready to grant them at the Company's usual exchange at twelve months sight or for as many pounds Sterlg as are due to the Three Judges severally by Act of Parliament for Arrears and Salary and at 30 days sight.

25 Such an Arrangement we observed might obviate the difficulties that had arisen and could not produce any ill effect to the general regulation We further acquainted the Judges that our Deputy Treasurer might raise money in their favor for any part of those Bills which they might want to enable them to pay their necessary Expences or for the discharge of Debts

26 Our Letter to the Judges closed with acquainting them that If this Accommodation should not prove satisfactory or effectually provide

for a predicament which we were sorry to make any subject of correspondence, and which must be equally painful on all sides, we requested that they would inform us by any Officer of their Court that they demanded the Payment of their Salaries in Cash, and that they would declare the period at which it must according to Law be made, observing that we only wished for such an Official requisition as might not make the payment of their Arrears and Salaries in Money an unnecessary deviation on our part from a general regulation, which had been announced to the Public, and which we could not with justice violate without legal necessity." Should the three judges avail themselves of the option presented to them of receiving Bills on the Company in payment of their Arrears and Current Salaries we shall take care that the total amount be considered as included within the sum permitted by your Letter of the 15th Septemr. 1785 to be drawn on your Hon'ble Court.

27. A Copy of our Correspondence with the Judges is sent a number Consn 31st Jan in the Packet No reply has been yet received to our 8th & 14th Febr'y last Letter above recited

28 Several representations have been laid before us from the Nabob Mozuffir Jung and other Persons receiving Stipends from the Company, against the resolution which we passed on the 29th December 1785, for paying their Stipends in Certificates to be discharged according to priority of date, we have not however yet decided on these It is proper to observe, that, had we followed, the former Custom of paying these stipends and allowance in Cash, no Cash could have been as yet advanced to them since your orders of 11th April 1785 directed preference of payment to your Soldiery You may be assured that the Nabob Mobaruck ul Dowla, and other Natives receiving Stipends from this Government will meet with the same justice relative to the payment of their allowances as we propose to observe in the discharge of our own, nor can they have any just reason for complaint while we observe this equitable rule.

29 The following Gentlemen not in Office having applied to us for the subsistence given to their respective Ranks in the service by your orders of the 11th April 1785 We have acceded to their requests by permitting them to draw the amount. Messrs George Hatch, Leonard Collings, Roger Gale, William Hunter, Robert Grant, Willoughby Leigh, E. E. Burges, Ramsay Hannay, Stephen Bayard, George Dickenson, I G. Booth, W Camac

30 The late Sub Accomptant General being relieved from the charge of the Stationary, and allowed, in lieu of the Commission which he drew on the purchases of it, the sum of Sicca Rupees 350 P Mensem Mr. John Cheap the present Sub Accomptant General, not deeming himself deprived of this allowance by your orders of the 11th April 1785, which in reducing his Allowance from 7200 rupees to rupees 5920 as in 1776, seemed to refer to his Salary and House rent which together amounted to the former sum, and having brought other circumstances in proof of the propriety of his

request that we should continue to him the before mentioned allowance of Sicca rupees 350 P Mensem in lieu of the charge of Stationary We agreed that the Sub Accountant General should be permitted to draw the same until the orders of your Hon ble Court should be signified to the Contrary

31 Your President and Council at Bombay have transmitted to us an Extract of their proceedings of the 22d Novemr 1785 and of their Letter to your Hon ble Court of the 30th of that month on the Subject of the Governor General's plan for the liquidation of the Company's debts in India and we are well pleased to observe that the plan in general (indeed the whole of it with the exception of a few Points regarding their Presidency) have met with their approbation. The Gentlemen in the Administration of your affairs at Fort St George have been less explicit on this subject They have contended themselves with informing us that they had made enquiries on it and should be well pleased if the result of them had been favorable to a plan of such magnitude and importance to the Company's Affairs but they were sorry to say that the plan had been considered by the Bond Holders at Fort St. George as liable to objection as far as it respected that Presidency

32 The President and Council at Fort St George have not only omitted to lay before us the particular objections of their Bond Holders to the Governor General's plan and thus deprived us of the means of considering them but they have not sent us any Copy of their Letter to your Hon ble Court concerning it.

33 We have therefore desired that they will immediately furnish us with an entire Copy of their Proceedings on the Governor General's plan for liquidating the Bonded Debts in India together with a transcript of their Letter to the Court of Directors. We doubt not that their enquiries were as full as the nature [] and they certainly had full time to investigate it as our Letter which made it known to them was dated the 1st August 1785 and their reply not given before the 14th January 1786

34 We have also requested that they will furnish us with a List of the Bond Holders under their Presidency and a state of the amounts due to them respectively from the Company as well as with the names of those who objected to the plan and of any who may have approved it

35 Your Hon ble Court will have in mind that this plan is entirely distinct from that for paying off Military Arrears The latter [as] far as it can be deemed connected with your Command of the 15th September 1785 is treated of in our Letter of this date from the Secret Department

Fort William
28th February 1786.

We have the Honor to be &c.

LETTER DATED 4 MARCH 1786

[Foreign Department]

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon'ble Sirs,

Since our Dispatches from this Department for your ship Deptford were closed, a letter has been addressed to us by the agents of a new French Company established in France for carrying on the East India Trade. The two requests which they have made to us are, that they should be permitted to have a house in Calcutta for depositing their merchandize, and that they should pay no higher Duties in Calcutta than $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. We have not hesitated in acceding to both, not only because there is an evident Advantage in making Calcutta the Emporium for French Trade, but because an opportunity is afforded to us by this Compliance with the wishes of the French Agents, of manifesting our good Disposition towards the Commerce of their Nation, and effecting in a great Degree a happy accommodation of our Disputes on Commercial Subjects with the administration of France in India.

2. A Copy of a Minute delivered in by the Governor General on this Subject, and of the Letter from the Agents of the French Company with our Reply to it, are sent Numbers in this Dispatch.

Fort William,
4th March 1786
[Per Deptford]

We have the honor to be,
Hon'ble Sirs,
Yours etc

LETTER DATED 9 MARCH 1786

[Secret Department of Inspection]

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Honble Sirs,

1. Since closing our Dispatches to you by the Dublin the Accountant General has laid before us the Regulations under which he recommended that the Management of the issue and discharge of Certificates should be conducted. As we deem it necessary that you should be apprized as early as possible of this Management being Conducted with the utmost

regularity and Security to your Interests we think proper to transmit to you Copies of the Regulations and the Letter which accompanied them together with an Abstract Monthly Statement of the paper taken up at the Treasury between the 31st October 1784 and 1st November 1785 This Statement Tends clearly to prove that the expectation which the Accountant General before Suggested of our Ability to take up all the paper issued by the 31st December 1785 before the 31st December 1786 will be Certainly verified by the Event

2 These papers are entered in their Order upon our proceedings of yesterday which Contain the Resolutions passed on the propositions submitted to our Consideration by the Accountant General

3 In our advices from this Department of the 9th of January last by the Rodney to which we beg Leave to request your particular Attention we had the Honor to acquaint you that in Order to provide for the annual Interest due on the Company's Bonds as promised in our Advertisement of the 14th March 1785 and next for the Annual Interest that might be due on oil Paper which might intitled to Interest the Treasury Should be Opened for the Receipt of Cash from Individuals for Bills on your Honble Court until an Amount equal to one hundred and eighty thousand Pounds Sterling Should be paid in and That the Bills including Interest at the Rate of 8 Per Cent Per Annum from the Periods at which the Payments might be made into the Treasury would be dated on the 1st of March and delivered as soon after the date as they could be prepared at the Exchange of 2 Shillings and one penny per Current Rupee

4 The Reasons which urged us to come to this Determination and the Necessity which we were of Opinion existed to induce us to avail ourselves of the Latitude allowed by your Orders of the 10th March 1784 are amply detailed in our Letter by the Rodney We have now the Honor to acquaint you that no more than the Sum of Rs. 6 72 000 10.5 has been prescribed on Account of this Remittance The your Treasury was kept open for Bills to be granted at the Exchange of two Shillings and one penny from the 20th Decr 1785 to the 1st Instant The Particulars of the Subscription will appear from a Statement delivered in to us by the Sub Treasurer Copy of which attends you a Number in the Packet

5 From the Circumstances of this Subscription your Honble Court cannot but observe the want of Specie at this Presidency and the difficulties which are likely to arise in filling up the Remittance which you have empowered us to make at the Rate of Exchange which you have been pleased to direct on your orders of the 15th September 1785

We have the Honor to be,
Honble Sirs,
Your most Faithful Humble Servants,
John Macpherson/Ro Sloper/
John Stables, Chas Stuart

Fort William
the 9th March 1786

LETTER DATED 24 MARCH 1786

[Secret Department of Inspection]

Mode of payment of salaries to judges—reductions effected in the expenses of military establishment—proposal for establishing a bank in Calcutta.

TO the Honble. the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

1. We had the Honor to address you from this Department on the 28th Ultimo by the Deptford, and on the 9th Instant by the Dublin Duplicate and Triplicate Copies of our Advices by these Conveyances now attend you by the Winterton which is under Dispatch.

2. Our Letter by the Deptford communicated to you the Substance of our Correspondence with the Judges of the Supreme Court on the Subject of the Discharge of their Salaries in Paper and the Offer which we found it necessary to make them of granting Bills on your Honble. Court in Payment of their Arrears and Current Monthly Salaries

3. The Judges have lately replied to this offer and acquainted us that the mode of Payment which would be most agreeable to them would be a Regular Payment in Money according to the Calculation of the Value of Rupees to which you have assented and on which the Salaries have been since discharged but that if our late Regulations rendered this mode of paying them inconvenient, they were ready to accommodate themselves to that proposed by us and would accept, in discharge of their Salaries, Bills of Exchange to be issued Monthly for the same Number of Current Rupees which they should be entitled to if they were paid in Money at three hundred and sixty five Days Sight and at the usual Rate of Exchange of two Shillings and one Penny for each Current Rupee

4 They have not acquiesced in the Proposal which we made to them of granting Bills payable in England for the Sum due to them in Pounds Sterling at Thirty Days Sight, because from the best information they could obtain of the Probable State of the Demand for Remittance to England these would not produce so many Current Rupees as they were entitled to receive, and because they would obviously suffer a Loss of the Interest of the Money from the Day it became due until the Day on which the Bills should be paid in England

5 The Letter from the Judges is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin In Consequence of their Acquiescence in Consn 9th March the Expedient which we proposed to them, Bills of Exchange will be granted to them on your Honble. Court for the Arrears

of Salary actually due as well as for the Amount which may be payable to them Monthly from this Period You will please to observe that this was the only method in which we could settle this matter without deranging our Regulations or doing an Injury to the Judges.

6 By your Ship Dublin we had the Honor to transmit to you a Copy of the Regulations which had been recommended by the Accountant General and adopted by us for the Management of the issue and Discharge of Certificates These are Recorded on our Consultation Consn 8th March of the 8th Instant which (with a Broken Set of our Proceedings from the 22nd Ultimo to the 14th Instant inclusive) attends you by the Ship now under Dispatch

7 The Accountant General having stated to us that Mr Francis Fowke the late Resident at Benares had been inattentive to the fifth Article of our Regulations of the 29th December last which directed that the Allowance of all Persons receiving from the Company more than the Monthly Salary of Current Rupees Three hundred should be paid in Certificates and had advanced the Sum of Rs. 12 000 64 on those Accounts for the Month of January last in Cash Mr Fowke was required to pay into the General Treasury the Amount which would have been remitted to it but for this Diviation [*sic*] from our Orders He acquainted us in Reply that his Error had been occasioned merely by a Misconception of the Instructions which he had received from the Accountant General and recommended that the present Resident should be desired to demand the Money back from those who had received it in Contradiction to the Regulations and to with hold any future Payment in the Event of a Non-compliance

8 Mr Grant has been accordingly instructed to require those who have received Money improperly from his Predecessor to repay the Amount and to Receive Certificates in its Stead but that the Company may not be Subjected to any Inconvenience from the Possibility of their Non Compliance Mr Fowke who was on the Eve of his Embarkation for Europe has according to our orders, left Instructions with his Attornies to pay such Part of the Sum as may not be refunded in Consequence of this Requisition into the Honble Company's Treasury at Calcutta.

9 An Abatract having been prepared by the Accountant General of the Weekly Monthly and Annual Amounts of the General Register of Certificates and other Demands (Bonds accepted) upon the Bengal Government in Circulation upon the 28th of February last agreeable to the Order by which they were to be Discharged the same is recorded in our Proceedings noted in the Margin and was announced to the Public by Advertisement in the Gazette the total amount being Rupees 1 14 03 520 40 and it was at the same time announced Consn 1st March to the Public that the Annual Interest due on the Company's Bonds would be paid at the Treasury on Monday the 6th Instant and that all the Paper issued or dated before the 1st of May 1784 would be discharged on or after the 7th of the same Month.

10 Our late Advices have communicated to you the Reductions which we have effected in the Expence of your Military Establishment We have now the Honor to acquaint you that on the 14th Instant the Commander in Chief delivered in a Minute stating to us his Sentiments on the Propriety of coming to some Determination in Regard to the Number of Officers actually necessary to the Service on the present Strength of your Army on this Establishment those now attached to the Different Corps being more numerous than are requisite for the due Performance of the Duties required of them We have concurred in Opinion with the Commander in Chief and have Published the same in General Orders as hereafter mentioned

11. The Commander in Chief having Delivered it as his Opinion that the two independent Regiments at Ramgur and Chittagong might be Reduced without Risque to your Possessions we have given Orders for their Reduction, and Directed that the Posts which they now occupy be supplied by two of the regular Corps from such Stations of the Army as the Commander in Chief shall judge most proper. The Reduction of the independent Regiment is to take Place when the Regiments Detached to relieve them shall arrive at their Stations In Consequence of the Commander in Chiefs Recommendation we have also ordered a Reduction of eight men a Company from every Brigaded Regiment of Sepoys. This alone will be productive of an Annual Saving of two Lacks of Rupees and tho' it is a Reduction of Expence and of the Number of Men, it is no Reduction of the apparent Force of the Army

12 The Establishment of Officers of the Army which appears to the Commander in Chief to be absolutely necessary to its present Force is as follows

Necessary Establishment for

- 1 Battalion of European Artillery
- 3 Regiments of European Infantry of ten Companies each Corps of Foreign Rangers
- 2 Rossalahs of Cavalry (to form one corp)
- 30 Brigade Regiments of Sepoys Corps of Engineers
- 3 Colonels
- 8 Lieutenant Colonels
- 11 Majors
- 76 Captains or Majors on Captains Pay
- 10 Captain Luetenants
- 260 Lieutenants
- 30 Lieutenant Fireworkers
- 210 Ensigns

To be proportioned as follows

Artillery

- 1 Lieutenant Colonel
- 1 Major
- 10 Captains

- 10 Captain Lieutenants
- 20 Lieutenants
- 30 Lieutenant Fireworkers

Infantry

- 3 Colonels
- 6 Lieutenant Colonels
- 9 Majors
- 61 Captains
- 228 Lieutenants
- 200 Ensigns

Cavalry

- 1 Captain
- 2 Lieutenants
- 2 Ensigns or Cornets

Engineers

- 1 Lieutenant Colonel
- 1 Major
- 4 Captains
- 8 Lieutenants
- 8 Ensigns

13 But as the Number of Officers actually attached to the several Corps of the Army exceeds so much the necessary Establishment here mentioned that we have not thought it expedient to Direct an immediate Reduction of the Number it has been Resolved that the following be deemed a temporary Establishment of Officers for the several Corps until the Board shall come to a further Determination on the Subject but the Vacancies that may occur in the temporary establishment are not to be filled up till the complement of Officers in any Corps shall fall below that fixed for the necessary Establishment

Temporary Establishment for 1 Battalion of European Artillery

- 1 Colonel
- 1 Lieutenant Colonel
- 2 Majors
- 10 Captains
- 10 Captain Lieutenants
- 30 Lieutenants
- 30 Lieutenant Fireworkers

Do Do for 3 Regiments of European Infantry of ten Companies each

- 3 Colonels
- 3 Lieutenant Colonels
- 3 Majors
- 30 Captains
- 42 Lieutenants
- 48 Ensigns

Do Do for Corps of Foreign Rangers

- 1 Captain
- 2 Lieutenants
- 2 Ensigns one Subaltern being Adjutant
- Do Do. for 2 Rossalahs of Cavalry
- 2 Captains
- 4 Lieutenants
- Do Do. for 30 Regiments of Sepoys
- 9 Lieutenant Colonels
- 29 Majors
- 61 Captains one Regiment being now Commanded by a Captain and each Regiment having two Captains
- 300 Lieutenants 11 to each Regiment 1 being Adjutant
- 3 Lieutenants Adjutant to the Sepoys Corps
- 3 Do or Ensigns Quarter Masters to Ditto Do
- Do Do for Corps of Engineers
- 1 Lieutenant Colonel
- 1 Major
- 4 Captains
- 8 Lieutenants
- 8 Ensigns

14 Having now fixed upon the Number of Officers proper to the necessary as well as Temporary Establishment we have Resolved that all Officers who are not now within the number fixed for the Temporary Establishment be considered as Supernumerary and permitted to Reside within such Parts of the Company's Territories on this side of the Caramnassa as they may prefer or Application made to the Commander in Chief which shall specify the desired Place of Residence, and on his Assent being received thereto.

15. Supernumerary Officers are to draw the Pay and Half Batta of the Ranks of which they now receive the Pay Batta and other Allowances and such as from their Ranks are entitled to Gratuity or to Gratuity and additional Allowance are permitted to Receive the same in Addition to their Pay and half Batta

The following is a List of Officers employed out of the Line who may be on either the temporary or necessary Establishment

Adjutant General

2 Aids du Camp } Governor General

1 Military Secretary }
 2 Aids du Camp } Commander in Chief
 1 Persian Interpreter }
 1 Secretary }

1 Judge Advocate General

1 Commissary General

4 Majors of Brigade { 1 to each Brigade and
 4 Aids du Camp { 1 at Futtighur
 1 to each Colonel Commanding a Brigade
 and 1 to the Colonel of Artillery

1 Fort Major	}	Fort William
1 Fort Adjutant		
1 Adjutant and Quarter Master		Midnapore
1 Barrack Master		Dinapore
1 Commandant at		Buxar
1 Fort Adjutant		Chunar
1 Adjutant	}	Chunar
1 Quarter Master		
1 Adjutant	}	Futtighur
1 Quarter Master		
1 Persian Interpreter and Secretary to the Commanding Officer in the Field		
1 Adjutant to the Invalids.		

16 Having duly considered the present Formation of the Native Corps and being convinced that the Present System of a Regiment of two Battalions is inferior to that of a Battalion of ten Companies we have Resolved to Revert to that System leaving for the present such Number of European Officers to the Battalions as is stated in the Temporary Establishment but reducing nine Jemadars from every Sepoy Regiment as now composed and eight Privates from each Company Also I Serjeant Major I Quarter Master Serjeant and I Drill Serjeant

The Establishment of a Battalion of Sepoys then becomes as follows

- 1 Commandant as at present
- 2 Captains
- 10 Lieutenants
- 1 Lieutenant Adjutant
- 1 Serjeant Major
- 1 Quarter Master Serjeant
- 1 Drill Serjeant
- 10 Subadars
- 10 Jemadars
- 1 Jemadar Adjutant
- 40 Havildars
- 1 Havildar Major
- 40 Naicks
- 620 Sepoys

- 1 Drum Major
- 1 Fife Major
- 8 Drummers or Fifers

The Establishment of Lascars Artificers Boatmen Sircars Doctors &c. to remain as at present

Establishment for the Guns attached to each Battalion

- 1 Haveldar or Naick
- 6 Golandars
- 1 Tindal
- 24 Lascars

17 The Officers now in Command of Regiments whether Receiving or not receiving the Pay of their Ranks are not to be removed during the Existence of the temporary Establishment but are for that time to command the Battalions. As Vacancies however occur the Commanders of the Battalions are not to be given to Majors on Majors Pay but to Majors on Captain's Pay as far as their numbers go and to Senior Captains as may be judged proper, neither neglecting the Rule of Seniority in allotting Sepoy commands nor absolutely adhering to it. The two Captains placed as second and third in Command of each Battalion will fall off as Vacancies occur

18 The Commander in Chief has been Requested to issue the necessary Orders for carrying the foregoing Resolutions into Execution and to fix the Periods for it

19 We shall hereafter Determine what Gratuities shall be given to the Native Commissioned Officers belonging to the two independent Regiments ordered to be reduced, and to the Nine Jemadars reduced from each Regiment of Sepoys

20. The Commander in Chief was desirous that this should be determined and notified with our Resolutions abovementioned and he proposed that the Establishment of Supernumeraries at Mongheer should be discontinued, but as the Subjects appear of Importance we have agreed to consider them at an early Meeting of the Board. We transmit to you however a Copy of the General's Minute a Number in this Letter together with Copies of the Minutes in which the General Proposed to us the Reform of your Establishments as Advised in this Address. A Minute from the Governor General on the proposed Reduction of the two independent Regiments is also sent a Number in the Packet

21 Our Resolution of the 10th March 1782 which limited the Overseers for superintending the Works of Fort William to three Europeans at 30 Rupees Pr Month each having reduced a Person named James Carnes who had faithfully served the Company for thirty three Years, to much distress we have been induced by the Recommendation of the late Chief Engineer to Restore to James Carnes a Pension of Fifty Arcot Rupees Per Month which he formerly Drew on the Chief Engineer's Establishment of Workmen, and this Indulgence has been granted him from the Date of Colonel Watson's Recommendation which was the 5th November last

22. In Consequence of our Directions to the Commissary General he has laid before us, and we have the Honor to transmit to you with this Letter "a Statement of all the Military Establishments of the Honble the English East India Company under the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal comprehending the European and Native Corps in the Service of the said Company the General Detachment; Garrison and Cantonment Staff of the Bengal Army, the Department of Ordnance and all Military Offices and Contracts which form any Part of the fixed Military Establishment under this Presidency together with a General List of the Commissioned

Officers Minor Cadets Military Chaplains and Surgeons in which are distinguished the Monthly Pay and Emoluments of every Corps and Rank in the Army as the same stood on the 31st Day of December 1785

23 As this Statement was intended to be laid before Parliament in conformity to the Fortieth Clause of the Act passed in the first Session of the Sixteenth Parliament in the Reign of his present Majesty the Commissary General has been particularly solicitous to render it as complete in point of information as the intentions of the British legislature seem to require We have the Pleasure to transmit to you a Copy of his letter accompanying it as it is fully explanatory of the plan upon which the work has been executed and that a Reference to any particular part of it may be rendered more easy and convenient

24 We should not do Justice to the Commissary General if we did not commend the Pains which he has taken in Preparing this Statement and the Clearness and Accuracy with which it has been drawn up We believe that the Form of it is precisely as you wish but if you should desire any Alteration of that Form we shall implicitly follow any directions that you may favour us with in Respect to the Statements to be transmitted to you in future

25 The Expence of all the fixed Establishments of the Army as the same stood on the 31st day of December 1785 and exclusive of course of all the Reductions since made amounted for that Month to the Sum of Sonaut Rupees 9 02 947.3.5 which is equal to Sonaut Rupees 1 19 15 366 9 0 Per Annum

26 Exclusive of the fixed Establishment of the Army and of the Contracts which vary little in their amount there are other Military charges of so fluctuating a Nature as to be incapable of a more precise mode of stating them than by an Estimate formed from their average amount in former Months Under this head the Commissary General has included the several Particulars of Military charges and Agencies the estimated amount of which together is about one Lack of Rupees Per Mensem.

27 Your Honble. Court will observe that the expence of the Battalion of his Majesty's 42d Regiment which is now in Bengal is not included in the Commissary General's Statement as it does not form any part of the Company's Military establishment and for the same Reason the Allowances of the Adjutant General and Quarter Master General of the King's Troops on the Coast are also not Noticed therein though they are paid from this Presidency an attentive Perusal of this work now before you will give you the best Idea of our Labour and Success in Reducing the Expences of your Bengal Military Establishment a Service in which we consider this Government and the Company much indebted to Your Commander in Chief as the Expence of all your Military Contingencies are kept separate and passed Monthly by a detailed Audit of the Board they will be kept within the narrowest possible Bounds We are persuaded we shall meet with your fullest approbation on the Subject of our Military Reductions.

28. The Persian Translator having submitted to us a Request that he might be allowed an Adequate Monthly Sum to enable him to procure the Aid of some Person competent to assist him in forming [*sic*, performing ?] the laborious Duties which have been assigned to him Alluding particularly to the Translations required of the Persian Correspondence which you ordered in your General Letter of the 9th Decr 1784 (Paragraph 2d), to be sent to Europe, we have been induced by our Knowledge of the Truth of his Representation to allow him an Extra Salary of 300 Rupees Per Month from the 1st Instant for that Purpose.

29 The Governor General had delivered his Testimony of Mr. Colebrooke's Assiduity [*sic*] and Attention in the Execution of the Duties of his Office The Proofs of that assidu[ity] are before you in the Department of the Persian Correspondence.

30 Our Proceedings noted in the Margin contain an Application which has been made to us by the Proprietors of a Bank, Do which has been established for some Years past in this Place under the Denomination of the Bengal Bank¹ "for our Countenance and Protection" in Return for the Services which they hoped to have it in their Power to render to Government and to the Public by accommodating Individuals with Advances of Cash upon Company's Paper of all kinds and by that means in some degree affecting the Discount by preventing such Paper from coming into Circulation and by inducing their Friends to Deposit Company's Bonds and Certificates with them, to convince the Settlement that the Company's Credit is designedly and artfully depreciated by native Usurers and Money Lenders.

31 The Proprietors of the Bank also made a Tender of their Aids towards the Regular Discharge of the Interest on Company's Paper which they conceived might be done by giving their Bank Post Bills payable sixty Days after Date, and our allowing them as soon as due to be received in all Payments at every Public Office on Account of the Company from whence they might be returned to the Bank in Part of the Amount of Interest due to them or if they should happen to have been paid up, they would engage most punctually to discharge them The only immediate Request which they prefer'd to us was to protect and Recommend their Credit and to give Currency and Circulation to their Notes by allowing them to be issued instead of Cash from our Military Pay Master General's Office to such Military Officers, Contractors &c as might find a Convenience in Receiving them

32 The Governor General was of Opinion that an Institution such as that proposed might occasionally be of great Service to Government, and would afford Relief to many of the Company's Junior Servants and others receiving Allowances from the Company in Certificates according to the present Regulations and for that Reason he Recommended the Proposals of the Proprietors of the Bank to our favourable Consideration, but as the Subject was of Importance, and required mature Consideration it

Consn. 14 March was thought necessary to require the Proprietors of the Bank to specify and Detail clearly the Points in which they expected our Countenance and Support. Their Reply on which we have not yet come to any Determination is Recorded on our Proceedings of the 14th Instant

33 We beg leave to Refer you to the same Proceedings for the Perusal of a Letter which we have Received from a Committee of Subscribers to a Bank proposed to be instituted in Calcutta under the Denomination of the General Bank of India communicating to us the Outlines of the Plan of their Institution and the Advantage which would probably accrue to the Public from the Effect which it would have in lowering the Discount on Paper and the Increase and Assistance which Circulation would receive from bringing into Currency a large Amount of Bank Notes and to Government by promoting and facilitating the Means of Commercial Intercourse to the Extension of Commerce and Consequent Prosperity of these Provinces and by being Ready to hold large Resources at the Disposal of Government upon emergent Calls otherwise unprovided for

34. In Return for these Eventual Benefits to be derived from the Institution it was proposed to us to countenance it by a compliance with the following Requests.

1st To Grant them the use of the old Khalsa Rooms in the old Fort

2nd A Guard from among the Invalids in that Fort

3d That we would order their Notes to be received at our Treasuries in Payment for Monies which might be due there upon their engaging to take up such Notes at all Times whenever tendered to them for that Purpose by our Treasurers and pledging themselves to that End always to hold Cash at least 1/3 of their Capital under its Extension by Notes.

4th That a Mutual Credit be established under which the Bank should be ready to answer Sudden calls of Governments to a fixed amount The General Bank being on their side permitted to look for the Aid from the Treasuries if in Cash when the Bank might require momentary Assistance or should the Treasurer not be in Cash Bills upon the Treasury

5th That the Bank should be promised all such further general Patronage and Protection as might be found conducive to the Welfare of Government the Public and the Proprietors.

35 As the Plan of the Institution was not completed we informed the Gentlemen who addressed us that we could not come to any Determination on the Subject of their Application they have since transmitted to us the Plan which has been resolved upon at a General Meeting of the Subscribers on the 17th Instant and several Arguments in Proof of its public Utility The Subject however lies over for Consideration

We have the Honor to be Honble Sirs

Your most faithful Servants

John Macpherson, Chas. Stuart/

Ro. Sloper/John Stables

Fort William,
the 24th March 1780
(Per Winterton)

LETTER DATED 24 MARCH 1786

Liquidation of military arrears—Tipu's designs on Tellicherry—Sindia's march against Jaipur—disagreement between Anderson and Sindia—accounts of the zamindari of Benares.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon'ble Sirs,

1 We had the honor to address you from this Department by your Ship Deptford on the 28th of last Month, and to forward to you a Duplicate of our Letter by the Dublin A Triplicate thereof is herewith sent to you in the Winterton's Packet with a Broken Sett of our Proceedings and their Index, beginning with those of the 28th Ultimo and ending with those of the 15th Instant

2 Several Certificates given at Fort St. George for such Part of the military arrear Debt of that Presidency as was proposed to be liquidated in Bengal Bonds have been presented to us amounting to Current Pagodas 18,294-22-9 and we have passed the necessary Orders for making out Bengal Bonds for this Sum in favor of the Persons to whom the Certificates were granted in a Letter written to us by Messrs Bayne and Colvin, agents for Mr Edward Garrow of Fort St George, they acquainted us that their Constituent had taken his Consn 9th March Certificates on an Idea that the Bonds to be granted for them here were to be discharged at the Expiration of twelve Months either in Cash or by Bills of Exchange to be drawn on the Court of Directors at the Exchange of s 2/1 d P Current Rupee, and they requested to know if this were our Intention or (if as they Supposed) it was only meant that the Interest would be annually paid here either by Cash or Bills, and in this Case they desired to decline Receiving the Bonds in Exchange for the Certificates until they informed their Constituents that they might instruct them accordingly

3. This Letter from Messrs Bayne and Colvin drew from us an answer conformable to the Governor General's Plan for liquidating the Military Arrear Debt of the several Establishments in India that an Con 9th March answer is recorded on our Proceedings of the 9th Instant. You will observe therein that we have declared ourselves no otherwise pledged for the Payment of the Bengal Bonds given on Account of Military Arrears than we are pledged for the Due Discharge of the Bengal Bonds issued for some Years past which are made payable at the same Period We have promised that the Interest payable in Bengal on the Arrear Bonds shall be regularly discharged as the Interest is on other Bengal Bonds, but we have observed that the one has no advantage over the other in the Payment of

the principal excepting that which may accrue to the Arrear Bonds in the means provided for their gradual discharge in England by an Increase of Investment at each Presidency and that when a Fund should be provided in England for such Discharge we expected to be advised thereof by your Hon ble Court and to receive your sanction for drawing Bills on you which should be paid from that Fund in Liquidation of this Part of the Arrear Deht We deemed ourselves pledged to the strict Execution of the Plan which we Resolved on for Liquidating the Military Arrears several Months before your orders of the 15th September 1785 arrived or were known in Bengal but if the Gentlemen at the other Presidencies to whom such Arrears are due should wish in Preference to take Bills for the amount of them on the Forms specified in your Orders of the 15th September 1785 we have left them at Liberty to do so

4 Your President and Council at Bombay have acknowledged their Receipt of the Plan for liquidating the Military Arrear Deht of your several Presidencies in India and at the same Time that Consn 9th March they have declared their highest Satisfaction with it they have assured us of their heartiest Cooperation in carrying it into the speediest Effect as far as it respects the Troops on their Establishment and to evince their Earnest Wishes to have an Object of so much real consequence soon effected, they have established a Committee consisting of their Military Paymaster and three more of their senior servants, with every requisite assistance to prepare as quickly as possible all necessary statements and Arrear Rolls, and they hoped that by the Time when the expected Bills would become due they hoped that they should be in sufficient Forwardness to begin paying the Troops and that the amount of the Bills would pay up the arrears of their Cavalry

5 We have the Pleasure to acquaint you that at the repeated Intercession of your President at Bombay the Poona Government had at length transmitted a Sunnud directing the immediate Delivery of the Rodney Snow which had been seized and detained at Gheriah by Gungather Pandit a Marratta Officer Your President and Council understand also that Orders have been sent to Gheriah for the delivery of the Cuddabux Grab belonging to Muzsa a principal Merchant at Tellicherry

6 We have been advised from Bombay of Mr Malet's arrival there, and that the Peshwa and his ministers had been informed of it in the Terms of our Orders Mr Malet was waiting the Result which would guide him in respect to his proceeding or not to the Court of Poonah but we have no doubt of his being there at this Time as we learn from Mr Boddam's Native Agent at that Place that the Minister had expressed great satisfaction at Mr Malet's arrival at Bombay and ordered Mr Boddam's Agent to proceed immediately to Bombay to conduct Mr Malet to Camp

7 Maha Raja Moodajee Boosla and his son Chimmajee have joined the army of Nana Furnavese. We learn that the Interview between the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawan and Nana was to be about the middle of last

Month The Result will ascertain whether any active Operations are to be Carried on with their joint Forces during the present Season We can only conjecture at present that there is no such real Intention We have not yet received any positive Contradiction that can certainly be relied on of the Report of Tippoo's Death, but we have much reason to believe that the Report was without Foundation

8 Mr Boddam's Native Agent at Poona advises Mr Anderson that the Portugeze are now at variance with Sawent Bonselo, and that Nana has deputed an Agent to accommodate their Differences, he also mentions that Mr Montegny, who went from Poona to Goa to meet the General of Pondicherry has returned without his object the General not having come there

9 We are informed by the same Channel of Intelligence that Ballo Jah Son of the late Seedy Abdul Rahim Cawn Governor of Gengerah on account of some Disagreement with his Minister had fled with his Younger Brother to the Fort of Siverndroog in the Possession of Hurry Punt Tanteah and that Gengerah is now in the Possession of Seedy Jooar the Minister of the late Abdul Rahim.

10 We transmitted to you with our Advices of the 28th February a Copy of a Letter which we had received from the President and Factors at Consn. 9 March Tellicherry bearing date the 14th of January, in which they acquainted us with their Apprehensions that the Prince of Chemika privately instigated by the Nabob Tippoo Sultan,¹ intended Hostilities against the Province of Randoteirah from which the Company Collected Revenue, and that the Prince had it in Contemplation to make a further demand of the Revenue, if not the Customs of Tellicherry itself They also informed us that several of the principal Merchants of that Place had been required in the Nabob's name to Leave Tellicherry instantly with the option of remaining either at Cananore, or in any other Port of the Nabob's Districts and informed that if they Rejected this offer, and a War should ensue they must share the Fate of the rest and would not be in the least Considered

11 Other Circumstances were also related to us of Tippoo's Conduct which shew Intentions not favorable to the Continuance of Peace either towards the Company or their firm Friend the King of Travancore

12 Your Resident and Factors at Tellicherry represented to us that their Force consisted only of a single Battalion of Sepoys and about 80 Europeans and about 1,500 Irregulars of the Inhabitants and that this Body of men was very insufficient, as indeed it must be, to maintain their Lines of five Miles in Circumference on which rests the Preservation of the Place, but as the Gentlemen at Tellicherry had apprized the Government of Bombay of their situation on the 12th of January we make no doubt that the necessary measures have been already taken at Bombay for the Relief and future support of Tellicherry

13. We have received private advice by a Channel which we deem authentic, that a confederacy of the Petty Rajahs, privately requested and,

encouraged by Tippoo was believed to be formed against Tellicherry, and that these Malabar Rajas had assured Tippoo of its being put into his hands. The same advices mention also that the Prince of Cherrika had actually taken Possession of Rhondoterry.

14. We consider the Preservation of Tellicherry as of Great Importance to your Commercial Interests and we are decidedly of opinion that the Inhabitants have a just Claim to your Protection. Besides, it Establishes a Port of connection between Bombay and the Carnatic and forms a proper situation for the assembly of an army to act against Tippoo in his own Dominions. Sensible of this he must be anxious to disturb our Possession of it what Renders it obnoxious to him constitutes its value to the Company.

15. We have instructed your President and Council at Bombay to send an immediate Aid of Men Money Provisions and Stores to Tellicherry if they should not have done so before the receipt of our orders and as they are much in want of Grain we have desired the Gentlemen at Fort St George to dispatch a vessel with 7 or 800 Bags of Rice to them without Delay. We have authorized the Government at Bombay to draw on us for such supplies of Cash as are required at Tellicherry and not exceeding three Lacks of Rupees. We have instructed the Resident and Factors at Tellicherry to defend their Settlement against every Attack and to advise the President and Council at Bombay from Time to Time of their Wants that they may relieve them. We have also desired that they would bank and Repair the Defences of their Fortifications and put them in the best Condition to resist an Attack.

16. With Respect to Rhondoterry we have Requested the President at Fort Saint George to write immediately to Mysore and to Require from Tippoo or in case of his Death from the actual Government of Mysore that the Prince of Cherrika be not supported against the Company or their Servants at Tellicherry. A Letter has been also written by the Governor General to Tippoo Sultan Translation of which attends you a Number in the Packet. The President and Council of Bombay having acquainted us that the Nabob had not removed the Embargo which he had laid on the Exportation of Pepper Sandal and Cardamums the Governor General has particularly mentioned his wish on this subject in his Letter to Tippoo.

17. Having adopted these precautionary measures we are in no apprehensions for Tellicherry. Yet after the want of support which the Malabar Chiefs found in our Engagement during the late war they must naturally be now hostile to the Company's Interests, their Hostility to the Company may be the Condition of their Security from Tippoo's oppression.

18. We regret that our Intelligence concerning the Company's Rights to Rhondoterrah is not so clear and precise as to admit of our instructing your Resident and Factors at Tellicherry in respect to it.

19. We find that on the 23d. March 1765 an Agreement was made by Mr Byfield Chief of Tellicherry with Rerey Varma, the actual Prince Regent of Cherrika in which the latter consented that the Province

of Rhandoterrah should be under the Company's Protection, and that "they should collect the Rents and Revenues thereof towards paying their demand due by the Achamars, in the same manner as was done, practised and agreed upon formerly between his Uncles The Princes of Cherrika and the Honble. Company, in Reliance of which being punctually attended to by them he had consented and given the same to them, upon a promise made him on the part of the said Company by their Chief, Thomas Byfield Esquire, that all necessary assistance for the good of his Palace should be afforded agreeable to what had been observed in times past" On Reference to the Documents in our Possession, preceding the Date of the Agreement with Revy Varma, we find that on the 9th of September, 1760 an obligation was given by the King Regent of Colastua (which we understand to be the same as Cherrika) mortgaging to the Company the Revenues of Rhandoterrah and Cunhangalatta for the discharge of the Balances owing to the Company from the Achamars with Interest thereon, and the 3d Article of that obligation stipulates that, "when the Company are paid the Debts abovementioned with the Interest that shall arise thereon the obligation is to be null and void"

20 Here our Information stops Respecting Rhondoterrah excepting that your Resident and Factors acquainted us in their Letter of the 14th January last that when the Prince of Cherrika demanded the Province, he acquainted the Resident "that he would discharge the amount of the Achamars Bonds whenever it might be sent to him" If we might argue upon the authorities before us, which certainly may be defective, we undoubtedly should admit the strict Rights of the Prince of Cherrika to a Restoration of Rhandoterrah as soon as he fully discharged the Bond of the Achamars, that is the Debt which the Assignment of Rhon[do]tterra to the Company was expressly made to liquidate and we should be obliged to pass this Judgement upon the Question in Opposition to the Arguments which we are well aware might be urged against it from the great convenience of such a Possession in the Neighbourhood of your Settlement, and the mischiefs that might arise if Rhondoterrah was possessed by a power not friendly to the Interests of the Company But before we Resolve ultimately upon this subject we expect to receive a full Relation of all the Circumstances regarding it from your Servants at Tellicherry and be fully informed of all the Reasons that could be urged to Justify the Company in keeping the Place

21 We are advised by your President and Council at Fort St George under Date the 23d Ultimo that Colonel Sir Henry Cosby has reported to them the Situation of Affairs in the Tinnevelly and Madura Districts from which it appears that the Nabob's Phouzdar Etabar Cawn has settled with the Poligars, and that there is the fairest prospect of their fulfilling their Engagements. The President and Council had in consequence directed Col Sir Henry Cosby to Canton the Detachment under his Command for the present, as they thought it would be imprudent to withdraw it entirely from the Provinces until the Crops were gathered in

22 The President and Council at Fort St George have lately furnished as with Extracts from their Proceedings in regard to the difficulties which they have encountered in realizing the amount of the Tribute due from the Raja of Tanjore to the Nabob of the Carnatic but as they themselves will have communicated to you their Proceedings in Detail on this Occasion we shall content ourselves with stating them briefly in this Place

23 You are already advised of the authority which we thought it necessary to delegate to the Presidency of Fort St. George on the 14th of November last not only to reestablish the Committee of Assigned Revenue and to vest them with full authority to collect the Revenues of the Carnatic should the Nabob fail in his Engagements but to collect the Revenues of Tanjore also should the Raja hesitate to pay his just proportion to the Public Service or to comply with the arrangements ordered by the Company This subject having been brought forward in Council at Fort St George on the 16th of December last it was proposed by the President to try the Effect of lenient measures on the Raja before they proceeded to the last Extremity and for that purpose that Mr Oakes, the President's private Secretary should be deputed to Tanjore to be the Bearer of the Letter which the Governor General had written to the Raja on the 25th of November last to endeavour to prevail on him to pay the Balance of his Peshcush and to bring him to a proper Disposition of Compliance with your Commands of the 9th December 1784 which he did not scruple to term unjust.

24 Mr Davidson's proposition having been resolved in the affirmative (though with the Dissenting Voice of Mr Daniel who thought that more vigorous measures should be adopted and that the Negotiation should be conducted thro the Channel of the Resident Mr Huddleston) Mr Oakes accordingly proceeded to Tanjore and on the 22nd January delivered to the Raja the Governor General's Letter accompanied by one from Mr Davidson representing to him in the strongest colours, the Lenity and Forbearance with which he had hitherto been treated and the necessity of his compliance with Demands so justly founded as those which had been made on him as well as the necessity to which the Presidency of Madras would be reduced in the Event of his non compliance with our orders (which had been kept secret to prevent the triumph of his Enemies) of carrying them into Immediate Execution The Raja however still continued to adhere with obstinacy to his Claim to the Districts of Arnee and Hernamea tagoody which had been decided by your Honble Court to belong to the Nabob he denied his Highness's Right to any arrears of Peshcush until these Districts should be delivered up to him and he should receive Credit for the amount collected from them and he declared the Treaty ordered to be entered into by the Company to be unnecessary as his life and property were at their disposal

25 In regard to the subsidy the Raja proposed to pay in four Months four Lacks on account of Current Demands and two Lacks on account of

Balance and the same for the following year, which the President and Council thought expedient to accept, but deemed it at the same time necessary, in order to enforce the performance of the Raja's Engagements, to instruct Mr Huddleston to take measures for securing such proportions of the Government share of the Crop now on the ground as might be equal to the six Lacks of Pagodas to be received from the Raja in the course of the four ensuing Months. It was at the same Time resolved to delay the Requisition to the Raja to make provision for the Payment of the arrears and of the Current Peshcush till the Raja's present Engagements might be completed.

26 On receipt of the abovementioned Orders from the President and Council at Fort St. George Mr Huddleston gave it as his Opinion that at the advanced season of the Year when their Instructions were received it would be scarcely possible to obtain so large a sum as six Lacks of Pagodas by taking possession of the Crop on the Ground, or by any other coercive measures within the time that the Raja had agreed to pay the whole, and that it would be still less possible to secure the receipt of the Kists at the periods when they would become due. He therefore adopted the expedient of proposing to the Raja, as a measure which would be less offensive to him, and more conformable to the spirit of his Instructions to place trusty Conicopolies over the Amaldars of the different districts with authority to keep exact accounts of their Collections, and of the sums dispatched from time to time to Tanjore, and to advise him regularly of the latter that he might demand and receive them of the Raja immediately on their arrival. The Raja however was extremely agitated and hurt at this proposal, and, after enlarging on the punctuality with which he had performed his promises, in future he desired the Resident to receive the following as his final answer.

27 That, he had already paid one Lack of Pagodas of the present years subsidy, that he pledged his word that another should be paid at the end of February, a third by the end of March and a fourth by the 30th of April. That, of the two Lacks in part of the Balance, he had just paid 50,000, that he would pay 50,000 more on the 25th of February, and the two remaining Kists on the 15th and 31st March or perhaps sooner, but that, if the Resident put in execution the measure proposed or any other similar to it, he should consider himself totally released from the Engagements he had entered into and the promise he had just made both with respect to the current Subsidy and the Balance.

28 Under these circumstances Mr Huddleston thought it expedient to defer proceeding to any greater length without further Instructions, at the same time giving it as his opinion that the Raja's promise might be relied on, as he had invariably adhered to Engagements which he had *once* been induced to make, altho' it had been difficult to bring him to *Consent* to make any Payment on account of the former Balance.

29. We have not been informed by the Gentlemen at Fort St George whether they had thought it expedient to enforce their original Orders

to Mr Huddleston or to rely on the Raja's promise as recommended by that Gentleman.

30 Our last advices from this Department referred to our Proceedings therewith sent for an account of Sindia's Transactions in the neighbourhood of Delhi

31 On the 16th of last Month Sindia's army marched from Deig 5 Coss to the westward of it and towards the Territories of the Raja of Jeypore. The Government of Jeypore is represented to us by Mr Anderson as having been in a weak and distracted Condition from the incapacity of the Raja yet from a clear Experience of the insidious Nature of Sindia's Conduct they seem determined to avoid the snares he has laid for them to hasten their own ruin in the proposal he has made for an amicable Settlement on condition of their payment of a large sum of money and to resist him to the utmost of their power. Cons. 9th March The neighbouring Rajepoot Chiefs to the westward from a conviction of the danger to which they must be exposed in case of the subjection of the Jeypore Raja have promised in case of matters proceeding to extremities to furnish him openly with aid. These circumstances so unfavorable to Sindia's views are increased by some suspicious circumstances of late in the conduct of his Ally the Matcherry Raja. This Chief who has a considerable reputation for courage and abilities was formerly Dewan to the Father of the present Raja of Jeypore and on his death he seized the opportunity to possess himself of one half of his Country which he has ever since maintained in opposition to all the efforts that have been made against him. On Sindia's coming into this Country he thought it prudent to join him but he has hitherto made no sacrifice to him and, appearances have not been wanting of late to make it probable that he is suspicious of Sindia and by no means heartily inclined to forward the service entrusted to him in conjunction with Andgef Cooloy Cawn and the other Jagheerdars of reducing the Jeypore Raja.

32. Our later advices from Mr Anderson mention that Sindia had resolved to march to Laalcotti a place about 15 Coss to the S.E. of Joynagurgh and not very far from the strong Fort of Rantempore.

33 We have before observed in quoting Mr Anderson's Intelligence that the Government of Jeypore, from the Incapacity of the Raja has long been in a weak and distracted condition. Mr Anderson now acquaints us that the situation of the Raja seems very desperate and that there is every reason to believe that Sindia's views are not now limited to the exaction of tribute from him but extended to the entire possession of his Country. He has no Army in the Field and the Forces under the Commands of Sindia's Auxiliary the Matcherry Raja and the Mogul Chief Nudjif Cooloy Cawn are now advanced very near his Capital. Sindia it is true is not without suspicion of some secret Intrigues carrying on between these Chiefs and the Raja but he trusts to his usual address and cunning to defeat them. He seems determined to avoid any measures that may be attended with risk, and with this view it is probable that instead of

attempting the siege of Jeynagui he will proceed leisurely to possess himself of the inferior Forts in the expectation that the Capital deprived of its resources would fall of itself This system so contrary to the rules of War established among European Nations he practised with great success in the reduction of Gawher and Ghode, and, on the present, as his object is less difficult and his power much greater he may reasonably expect an equally favorable Issue.

34 Our last letters from Mr Anderson dated the 2nd, 4th & 5th Instant contain the detail of a disagreement which has lately happened between him and Sindia, and compelled him to withdraw from Sindia's Camp Many of the circumstances incident to this disagreement were apparently of a trivial nature, but they grew into importance from the stress that was laid upon them in Sindia's Camp, and the loss of Influence which they occasioned to your Representative. Mr Anderson's recital of this transaction is so fully and so minutely detailed and which may be of eventual consequence, would be so liable to various Judgements upon it if it were not considered in all its parts, that we cannot, without possible injustice to Mr Anderson, abstract his Narrative or change the terms of it We therefore transmit it a number in this Dispatch and recommend it to your particular attention We have often had occasion to commend and even to admire the judgement, spirit, and ability which have shewn themselves in Mr Anderson's Proceedings as your Minister with Mahajee Sindia The Dilemma to which he was reduced from the perverse and almost unaccountable conduct of Sindia appears to us to have admitted of no Line of Proceedings less decided or different from that which Mr Anderson adopted, and we therefore could not withhold from him the justice which we deemed due to him in commending it

35 Without attending to the improper conduct of Mahajee Sindia, which compelled Mr Anderson to the step which he has taken, we are of opinion that it must rather be productive of good than of evil consequences to the Company's Interest and Government It may be a check upon Sindia's ambition and he is too prudent to risk the loss of his lately acquired possessions by any unfriendly measure towards us, while we have the means of counteracting his views

36 In considering the orders that should be sent to Mr Anderson for his guidance in the present Crisis, we have reflected how much we have often left to his own discretion, and how much he has shewn that he deserved the trust and confidence reposed in him, and, we have again thought it necessary to afford a new proof of our reliance on his judgement, assured that it would not be found to be misplaced, and conceiving that his knowledge of Sindia's Character and views, and the means which he possesses of being quickly informed of events as they occur, and may influence the measures proper to be adopted, make it necessary to leave a great deal to his own determination We have therefore been content in acquainting Mr Anderson with our wish that he should return to Sindia, if he shall be fully satisfied that the Men whom he dismissed from his Service

and who were afterwards received into the service and confidence of Mahajee Sindia have been sent away from Sindia's Camp. We have given him authority for going back and left him at liberty to make such public use of that authority as he judges proper but we have not positively ordered his immediate return and if he should deem it most advisable to go back to Sindia we have left it to himself to arrange such mode of effecting his return as shall be most satisfactory to his own feelings and most creditable to the British Government.

37 Mr Anderson will advise the President and Council at Bombay and Mr Malet of what has passed and what is determined on that they may be fully informed of the reasons for his having withdrawn from Sindia and apprized of the consequences of this measure in Mr Anderson's further proceedings.

38 The Governor General has been informed by Lt Coll Harper that an attempt was made on the 10th Instant to assassinate Almass Ally Cawn as he was going from the house of Hyder Beg Cawn at Lucknow. The assassin took the opportunity of attacking him in a narrow passage where for the crowd the Palankeen in which Almass rode could not pass and he had very near effected his purpose for his Arm was arrested in the very act of aiming the blow with a Palsheutz or Dagger. The cause of this outrage is not yet ascertained but as the Assassin was seized and is in confinement it is likely that the truth will soon be discovered.

39 We transmit you a number in this address a Copy of a Letter written by Lieut Col. Harper to the Governor General together with a translation of the Khilthundee or Agreement made by the Vizier and his Ministers for paying by instalments the Sums which they agreed to furnish for the public supplies and expenses at Lucknow for the present sussulce 1193.

40 The Balance owing by his Excellency to the Company at the end of January last amounted to Fyzl 10 Sun Sicea Rapces 20,23 703 11 3.

41 A Letter has been addressed to us by the Resident at Furruckabad in which he has informed us that a Foreigner of the name of Dejarlie who had long been connected with the refractory Zemindars of the districts of Murrattas which for some years past has yielded but an imperfect obedience either to the Nabob Muzuffer Jung or to the Vizier's Government has been conducting himself in a very unjustifiable manner in concert with a refractory Zemindar named Hemutt Sing and that his people united with those of Hemutt Sing have made a daring and unprovoked assault upon the life of Mr De Luc a Gentleman who visited the Nabob Muzuffer Jung's districts with the permission of the Governor General. Mr Dejarlie's conduct had been so improper in the year 1781 that the late Governor General sent him orders to proceed to Calcutta but Mr Dejarlie trusting to his connections and situation held the orders of Government in contempt and neither complied with them nor acknowledged his receipt of them.

42. The Governor General's Agent at the Court of Lucknow has been directed to apply to the Nabob Vizier and to Almass Ally Cawn to exert their Authority for the removal of Mr Dejarlie as well from any place

immediately dependent upon Almass Ally Cawn, as from any other place within the Dominions of the Nabob Vizier, giving ten days notice to Mr. Dejardie to take his departure on pain of being sent down to this Presidency, if he shall not obey the Order, or shall take up his residence in the Neighbourhood of the Nabob's territories Coll Harper is also to be directed to use his influence with the Vizier and Almass Ally Cawn, to forbid and prevent his return to any place or places under his Excellency's authority or in the Neighbourhood of it, on pain of suffering the same punishment on a disobedience of his Excellency's commands

43 Mr John Benn having vacated the office of Assistant to the Resident of Benares, and proceeded to Europe in the Dublin, we have appointed Mr P Treves, to be Assistant at Benares in his room.

44 On the 11th November 1785 a Letter was addressed to us by Mr Joseph Fowke, in which he observed to us that his allowance of Rs. 333 5 4 did not allow him a bare subsistence, with the most rigid oeconomy at the dear rates of every Article of life in Calcutta, that he was a Senior Merchant of some years standing, and wishing to be of some service to his employers to the latest hour of his life, he requested that he might be appointed assistant to his son at Benares, which would be in some measure complying with your former Orders for his residence at that place

45 When this application came to us from Mr Joseph Fowke your orders of the 11th of April 1785 which allowed of one Assistant only to the Resident at Benares, did not admit of our complying with it, another Servant of the Company being then Assistant at the Benares station. When a vacancy occurred by the resignation of that Assistant a Gentleman, requested by the Resident, was appointed to supply his place, and, as Mr Fowke's application had been to be Assistant to his Son, we did not suppose that, upon his Son's vacating the Residency, it would be his wish to be Assistant to any other person in that office Mr Fowke has been informed accordingly

46 We beg leave to refer to our Proceedings of the 15th Instant for the Resolutions which we have passed on the several Claims to Deductions of Revenue made by the Raja of Benares for the last year 1192 These de-

ductions amounted to Benares Sa Rs 2,11,759 1 and were principally claimed upon the ground of the late Governor General's assent to sundry requests made by the Raja in the years 1781 and 1784 His formal assent to them carries the force of a positive engagement which the late Governor General entered into in virtue of powers which he received from the Board, and is therefore binding upon this Government We have however only admitted such as the Raja was warranted by any authority that we knew of in requiring from us, and upon this principle we have not acceded to so much of his claims as amounted to Rs 68,387 The deductions which we have allowed on the Principle of the late Governor General's Stipulations are for the sum of Benares Sicca Rupees 1,43,372.1

47 The Balance due from the Raja on account of the 12th Kist for

Bhandun 1191 or 1783/4 is stated by the Sub-Accountant Consn 25th Jan General as amounting to Benares Sa. Rs 4,30 000 Mr Benn explained the cause of this balance but suggested that the Raja had a claim to the same remissions on account of the year 1191 as were granted in 1190 We have been obliged to admit the justice of it since it is authorized by the late Governor General's Agreement with the Raja in 1781 It has therefore been allowed. This deduction amounting to Rupees 1 15,334. 13 1 and taken from the balance stated by the Sub-Accomptant General of Rs. 4 30 000 the Sum of 3 14 685 2 1 remains due of the Benares Revenue for the year 1191 Mr Benn considers this balance as doubtful of recovery but not unobtainable it has arisen from the change of the former Naib in 1784 The Resident at Benares has been directed to use his best endeavours for realizing this debt from the Zemindary but without risking the regular payment of the established Kists of the present year or affording cause for oppressive exactions from the Renters or Ryots.

48 The Sub-Accountant General in his statement of the 25th January of the balance of Revenue due from Benares, makes the Sum of 5 40 000 due for the Kists for Cantick and Aghunn in the present year These however have been since received together with the Kist for Pooss so that the Benares Revenue is paid up to the 10th of last January

49 The Balance of Revenue now due from the Zemindary of Benares is as follows:

Balance of 1191 doubtful of recovery but not unobtainable	3 14 685 2 1
Amount deductions not yet allowed to the Raja	68,387 0 0
Kist for Maug due about the 10th of Feb'y	4 12 000 0 0
	<hr/>
	7 95 052 2. 1

50 No mention is made of the Kist for Pehaugun because it can hardly be supposed to be yet actually due and certainly is not a balance

51 A Letter was addressed to the Governor General on the 5th January last by the late Resident at Benares in which he conveyed a request from the Raja that he might be allowed a Khelaut in consequence of his having paid up the Revenues of the last year and Mr Fowk represented that this mark of distinction and support from Government was necessary for the due establishment of the Raja's Authority with the Renters and Inhabitants of the Country The request of the Raja intimated by the late Resident has been recommended in yet stronger terms by the present Resident Mr James Grant who has given us reason to suppose that the Raja's Influence in the Mofussel at this period of the heavy Kists may be suspended from the detention of the Khelaut already earned and for which he is now very pressing

52 As the Payment of the Raja's Revenue for the last year 1192 appears to have been completed except in the amount of the deductions not granted by the Board who have not yet seen a proper authority for

the claims to them, the Governor General was of opinion that a Khelaut should be given to him, but that the Resident should be directed to acquaint the Raja that all the Deductions which the former Resident supposed would be admitted have not been granted, and with the reasons which induced us not to acquiesce in the whole of them We have agreed in opinion with the Governor General, and authorized the Resident to invest the Raja with a Khelaut in the usual form

53 We have expressly ordered that the Resident should not at any time give the Raja credit in his account current with the Company for any deductions which he may claim until the same shall have actually received our express sanction.

54. We are not without a confident hope that the Balance of 1191 due from the Zemindary of Benares will be recovered The Resident has requested that a Statement of such as are to be reassumed or may not have been admitted may be sent to him that he may submit to us a plan for effectually funding and realizing the same by Instalments over and above the settlement of the ensuing years, as it would be injudicious, if not dangerous to the present Revenue, to risque any innovation at this juncture of the heavy collections, either in the system of management for this year, or in the amount of the settlement in which no provision has been made for arrears But which he shall consider in his arrangement for the ensuing year, as the second but determinate object of his duty, and with our support he has declared himself sanguine and confident of its fair accomplishment without violence, injustice, or oppression, with the concurrence of the Raja, and the welfare and happiness of his Country and Subjects

55. An Aizee having been transmitted about six Months ago to the Commander in Chief by Babboo Jaggeideo Sing, the late Naib of Benares, in which he complained of certain acts of oppression which were exercised towards him by the Managers of the Zemindary, it was sent to Mr Fowke that he might report the case to us Mr Fowke's reply appears on our Proceedings of the 15th Instant We have now desired Mr. Grant to investigate the circumstances of Jaggerdeo Sing's Complaint, and to cause that Justice to be rendered to him which upon a fair Inquiry the Merits of his Case may appear to demand.

Fort William,
24th March 1786
[Per Winterton]

We have the honor to be &ca.

LETTER DATED 24 MARCH 1786

[Foreign Department]

Restoration of the French possessions and privileges—supplies of saltpetre and opium to the Dutch and the Danes.

To the Honble Court of Directors

Hon ble Sirs

1 Our last advices from this Department were dated 26th February and the 4th Instant and transmitted by the Deptford A Duplicate was sent by the Dohlin, and a Triplicate thereof now attends you by the Winterton, with a continuation of our Proceedings brought up to the 14th Instant

French

2 Our Letter of the 4th Instant conveyed to you a Copy of a minute delivered in by the Governor General on a letter from the Agents of a new French Company established in France for carrying on the East India Trade and acquainted you with our Compliance with their Requests that they should be permitted to have a House in Calcutta for depositing their merchandize and that they should pay no higher duties in Calcutta than 2½ per Cent.

3 This measure not having ultimately consisted with the opinions of Mr Stables and the Hon ble Mr Stuart, Minutes were delivered on the Subject and are transmitted to you numbers in this Packet They Claim your attention and we desire to be furnished with your express orders on the Subject as soon as possible

4 We acquainted you in our advices of the 26th Ultimo that the French Agent had transmitted to our Commissary a formal Declaration from Mr Nicolas of the Places and Privileges claimed by the French Agent in these Provinces. Mr Nicolas Declaration is transmitted to you n number in the Packet.

5 The following is a Copy of our Minutes and Resolutions on the subject of it.

The Board observe that the offer made to the French Agent by their Resolution of the 31st of January was to abide by the Declaration of Monsr Nicolas the Senior servant of the French in Bengal or by the Declaration on oath of any two French Gentlemen who were in Council at Chandernagore relative to the Right of the French to any particular *places* claimed by them as having been in the Possession of the French Company before the late War

The Declaration of Mr Nicolas is not positive in some parts of it upon the actual Right It states Claims that were formerly preferred by the French without bearing testimony to the justice of them It includes assurances which relate to *Privileges* belonging to the French and is not confined to their Right to the Places which they demand The Board are not bound to follow the Declaration where it is not clear and precise in announcing the justice of the claims which have been preferred to the *Places* demanded. Where it is clear and precise they are undoubtedly

required to abide by it. They accordingly resolve

1st. That the French are allowed to have a Chief at Patna and to hoist a Flag in their Factory there.

Secondly That the French are allowed to have a Factory at Balasore.

Thirdly With respect to Jugdia the Right has not been a subject of dispute because the place has been done away by the overflowing of the waters The Committee of Revenue have delivered in a Report of the quantity of Land formerly occupied by the French at that place and that it was not purchased Property, but rented upon a Talookdary Pattah for which the French paid a certain annual Revenue to the Zemindars.

The Board agree to allow the French to rent this quantity of Land upon a Similar Pattah as near where Jugdia formerly was as it can be procured, and they allow the French the same Rights thereon as they held at Jugdia.

Fourthly The Gunge of Nourdy in the Town of Dacca, and what the French possessed before at Tisgong and Serampore, are considered as dependant on the French Factory at Dacca and the Chief of that Factory is allowed to send an Agent to Serampore.

Fifthly Whatever Factories and Houses the French were possessed of at Comicola, Keipay, Soopore and Mohunpoie are restored to them "

6. A Copy of these Resolutions is transmitted to Mr. Commissary Wilton for his guidance, and the information of the French Agent, and as a French India Company is now established, and as the places ceded or to be ceded were formerly in the Possession of the French Indian Company, Mr. Wilton was directed to acquaint Mr Dangeieux that the places were to be restored to him, who we supposed, would of course deliver them over to the Agents of the French Company.

7. Our Resolutions of the 9th Instant having been sent to the commissary he addressed a Letter to us in which he transmitted a Copy of the Pattah which he had received from the French Agent of the Land formerly possessed by the French at Jugdia

8 It appeared clearly that the quantity of Land reported by the Chief of Dacca to have been rented by the French at and near Jugdia, and the quantity stated in the Copy of the Pattah furnished by the French Agent were very different, but as we wished to shew every attention to the Rights to the French, and every reasonable indulgence to their Claims we have agreed that the Circumstances should be stated by the Commissary to your Chief at Dacca with Directions to examine the original Pattah, and if it should be proved therein that the French did rent the quantity specified in the copy of the Pattah furnished by Mr Dangeieux, to permit the same to be rented from the Zemindars as near where Jugdia was, as it can be procured, but if the original Pattah cannot be found or the Quantity shall not be the same as the French suppose, a Reference is to be made to us for our Determination on the subject

9. A Question having arisen and not having been yet determined, whether the French have or have not a Right to some ground at Serampore

near Dacca given up by the Chief at Dacca to Mr Champigny we have agreed that it should be proposed to the French Agent to desire Mr D Ayot (the intended French Chief at Dacca) to cooperate with Mr Day the English Chief in that Province in determining the proper quantity so as to keep up a desirable tranquility and in a manner least injurious to those who may now be actually in Possession of a Bazar and Ground at Serampore which have also been claimed as Property belonging to the French.

Dutch

10 The Director and Council at Chinsura have applied to us for an allowance of 800 or 1000 Chests of Opium and of 23 000 maunds of Salt Petre for the present year We have agreed to allow them 700 Chests of Opium which were granted to them for the last season and had been granted some years prior to the Commencement of the late War and we have resolved in indulging them with the usual Quantity of Salt Petre which is 23 000 Maunds

Danes

11 The Agents of the Commercial Department at Fredericksnagore have requested four hundred Chests of Opium for the present Year

12 Prior to the Year 1781 the Danes had no allowance of Opium whatsoever In July 1781 after the Commencement of the War with Holland which of course prevented any supplies of this article to the Dutch the Danes collected an allowance of Opium in common with the other Foreign Settlements, and it was agreed to indulge them with 400 Chests. We have not thought ourselves at liberty at this Time when the Dutch are again benefited by the usual Quantity of Opium formerly allowed to them, to comply with the application of the Danes for the Quantity they required but to shew our favorable Disposition towards them we have agreed to allow them the same Quantity of Opium as was granted to the French last Year vizt 200 Chests observing to them at the same time that we must be guided by your Orders in respect to any future Supply of this Article to the Danish Company

13 We have thought it necessary to desire that the Agents of the Foreign Settlements to whom Opium is supplied shall settle as formerly with the Contractors so that the allowance made to the Foreign Settlements being considered as a Deduction from the Contract, the Company shall not be at the Expence of making advances on Account of such Allowance or at those Charges for Commission &c which they incur for the Opium delivered at the Presidency

We have the honor to be &c. &c. &c.

Fort William,
24th March 1780.

LETTER DATED 30 JUNE 1736

Tellicherry reinforced—assistance to the Marathas—operations against Tipu—Anderson leaves Sindia's camp—Sindia's designs on Jaipur—military peace establishments and regulations—restitution of French territories—Col Cathcart's deputation to Mauritius.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors

Hon'ble Sirs,

1 Our last dispatches were dated the 24th of March and transmitted by the Winterton We have sent one of your Vessells named the Elizabeth to Fort Saint George to carry Dispatches from that Presidency to your Honourable Court as far as Bussorah We have now the pleasure of addressing you by that Conveyance as We write to you over land it is necessary that our narrative should be brought into as small compass as the Subject of it will admit a Packet which we intend to dispatch direct for England in the course of the ensuing month will convey to you the Proceedings of this Government in full detail from the date of our last Advices by the Winterton

2 We pass over the occurrences at Fort Saint George as these will be related to you from thence by the Elizabeth to the latest Period of her stay there, and with the Advantage of that precision which Details immediately relative to any of your Presidencies may be supposed to possess when coming from the Presidency itself We are happy to assure you that perfect harmony prevails between your Superior Administration and the Subordinate Governments, that it seems to be as much the wish of the Gentlemen now in Charge of your Affairs at Fort Saint George and Bombay *as it is* certainly our own to continue to conduct them on the Principles of a liberal and co-operative System We have learned with great concern that the Ill state of Health of your Commander in Chief on the Coast of Coromandel rendering him unequal to the Fatigues of his Department and particular duty, he proposes to return to Europe in the Course of the ensuing Season Notice of this Intention has been communicated by his Secretary who is now in Bengal, to the Commander in Chief of your Forces, and by him to us We have sent our assurance to Sir John Dalling that if the ill state of his health should ultimately oblige him to proceed to Europe we shall agreeably to his request direct one of your Ships to call at Fort Saint George for the conveyance of himself and his family to England and recommend it to the President and Council to defray the Expence of his Passage

3 His Majesty's 23d Regiment of Light Dragoons being much in want of Horses, and as we deemed it of much consequence that this

Regiment should be kept up so as to be always fit for actual and effective Service we have taken upon us the Expence of recruiting it upon the same Terms as were allowed to the late Sir John Burgoyne and which we deem very reasonable.

4 In our advices of the 24th March we acquainted you with the alarm which your Chief and Factors at Tellicherry appeared to be under for the Safety of that Settlement in consequence of a Confederacy of the Petty Rajahs on the Malabar Coast, who were supposed to have been privately encouraged in their designs by the Nabob Tippoo Sultan We also informed you of the measures which we had taken and desired the President and Council of Bombay to take for the relief and support of that Settlement Your President and Council have since informed us that they do not consider Tellicherry as in any danger of being attacked but they have very properly complied with an Indent from the Chief and Factors for Military Stores that they might be prepared against any possible danger during the Rains when the President and Council might not be able to afford Relief to that Subordinate They have also reinforced it with a Company of European Infantry and as many more Europeans as would complete the Company that was there before the Garrison being thus made to consist of a Battalion of Sepoys 2 Companies of European Infantry about 40 Artillery and 1500 Militia. The President and Council had proposed sending another Battalion of Sepoys to Tellicherry *but such was their distress for Funds* owing principally to a Temporary failure in the payment of Bills which we had remitted to them *that they could not supply the necessary means of providing for that reinforcement* The Prince of Cherrika possessed himself of the Province of Rahndoterrah on the 20 of January The Company's People were withdrawn and he met with no opposition The President and Council at Bombay have expressed their hope that his Account with the Company will be amicably adjusted Tippoo did interfere or appeared to interfere in some degree to have this matter settled but such have been the Evasions of the Prince of Cherrika that we do not entertain much expectation of the Payment of the Debt without compulsive measures which it may not be prudent to hazard while a probability exists that they may involve you in troubles of a more serious nature

5 It is not very probable that Tippoo will wish a rupture with the English while his Troops are not only employed against the allied Forces of the Subahdar of Decan and the Mahratta State but have a considerable Body of other enemies to oppose Yet there are some circumstances in his conduct which give it a dubious aspect Onore Fort has been demolished and the antient Inhabitants removed either to Seringapatam or Mangalore The small Post of Mount Delhy has not been yet restored according to Treaty a Number of English Prisoners are yet detained in his Country and he has not thought proper to take off the General embargo which he imposed upon the Exportation of those Staple Productions of his Country which have furnished Cargoes for your homeward bound Ships from the Coast

of Malabar and without which they cannot be loaded his Answers to the Governor General upon the Subject of the Prisoners are evasive but Profess steady friendship and a disposition to remain at Peace with the English

6 Mr Malet whom we appointed our Resident at Poona, arrived at Bombay on the 8th of January and dispatched the Letters with which he had been charged to the Peshwa and Nana Furnavese They immediately invited him to proceed to Poona and the friendly stile in which their Letters were expressed strongly evinced their approval of his appointment You have already been informed how much it has met, with the concurrence and support of Mahajee Sindia Mr. Malet left Bombay on the 12th February and arrived at Poona on the 3d of March The Minister was not there, having put himself at the head of the Army which had marched to join that of Nizam Ally Cawn for the Invasion of Tippoo's Country On the 7th March Mr. Malet proceeded with the Gentlemen of his Party to the Peshwa's Palace where he was received in due form and delivered his Letter, Credentials and presents to the Peshwa who expressed much satisfaction at his arrival Mr Malet's Conferences were held with Behroo Punt, the Person with whom the Business of the Durbar was to be transacted Behroo Punt took an early occasion to endeavour to collect the extent of Mr Malet's Commission and the "Intentions of his Superiors relative to the important Point then depending on the Peshwa's *Application for Assistance*, and urged on various pleas drawn from our supposed *Resentment of the Injuries received from Tippoo Sultan*, and from political Topics, *the propriety and necessity of compliance on our Parts* He mentioned the *Offers of the French*, drew some merit from the rejection of them, and insisted much on the *evil consequences* that would follow *should they join the opposite Party*, in which event should they, the Mahrattas, be induced to accommodate matters with Tippoo his Freedom from Apprehension on this side *would be followed with Hostilities to us*, his Inclination to which was evinced by his daily Conduct" Mr Malet did not think proper to come to any Explanation with any Person, but the Minister himself, and therefore evaded a direct answer to Behroo Punt's Question, observing only "that the friendship of the Peshwa and strict adherence to the present Treaty was one of the primary objects of the present Governor General and Council, that peace with all our neighbours was another, that we wished no Acquisitions of Territory, but that should Tippoo, as he hinted, on finding himself free from apprehension on this side, Machinate Evil against us he would find us ready to receive him and that on all future occasions as events should render expedient, the *Peshwa would find the English* the best Allies in Peace and the most useful friends in War" A Letter was written to Nana Furnavese who, as we before observed, was with the Army, in respect to Mr Malet's proceeding to it Uncertain events and probably the wish which Nana had to return to Poona himself made it at first doubtful whether the Minister was desirous that Mr Malet should be at the trouble of attending him or not, but it soon appearing that he wished it, and Mr. Malet having received a Letter from Nana to this effect, he left Poona on

the 20th April to join Nana Mr Malet acquaints us that Monsr Montigny the French Resident remains at Poona is little spoken of and either has little to do with the Durbar or is quietly waiting the issue of former Negotiations On the 1st of April Mr Malet received our Dispatches of the 14th February respecting the three Battalions promised to be sent to the Mahratta Country for the Security of the Peshwa's Person or of any of the Forts within his Dominions but as was expressly stated not to be employed offensively against the Mysore Government or for any purpose but those which we have mentioned Mr Malet received at the same time the Governor General's Letters to the Peshwa and Nana Furnavese and forwarded the Letter for the Peshwa immediately to Nana, keeping that for the Minister to be delivered by himself We omit to mention many subjects of Mr Malet's Letter to this Government which not appearing to us of equal Importance with the rest will be communicated to you in our next Advices by sea On the 30th April during Mr Malet's Journey to the Mahratta Camp he received a Letter from Nana Furnavese enclosing one for the President at Bombay in which the Minister desired that the Forces which we promised and which he stated to be five Battalions of Sepoys to assist the Mohrattas and five to assist the Troops of Nezam Ally Cown might be immediately sent to join the allied Army

7 Your President and Council at Bombay have in Consequence acquainted Nana thro their President that they were ready to assist the Mohratta State with three Battalions of Sepoys properly equipped under the express stipulation that they shall not be employed to act offensively against the Mysore Government or for any Purpose but the Security of the Peshwa's Person or of any of the Forts within his own dominions. They also informed Mr Malet that should the Peshwa and his Minister accept the proffered Aid on the Terms prescribed Estimates of the Monthly Charges of the Detachment would then be Transmitted to him that he might make the necessary preparative Arrangements for the subsistence of the Troops for the ultimate approbation of this Government. Before our Receipt of the Advices that a Requisition had been made for the Company's Forces to join the allied Army we repeated our Instructions to Mr Malet as sent to him on the 14th of February desired him to delay the Requisition for Troops as long as possible without ha arding the Consequences which our offer of assistance was intended to prevent and again stated the only purposes for which the Troops were to be employed until therefore the Peshwa's Person should be in Danger or any of the Forts within his Dominions we observed that our aid was not to be required that we never meant to assist the Peshwa in offensive Operations against Tippoo with whom we were at Peace nor could we assist him in such Operations unless the French had actually combined with Tippoo against the Mohrattas

8 Your President and Council at Bombay having received our Instructions of the 14th February took an early occasion to apprize us that should the Requisitions be made by the Poona Government they should

be under the necessity of beginning to raise a like number of Battalions of Sepoys as they held in Readiness to be detached to the assistance of the Mahrattas having but four Battalions in Garrison at Bombay, the Marine Battalions being employed on board their Cruizers and their Remaining three Battalions at Surat, Salsette, and Tellicherry We immediately cautioned them not to raise new Levies of Troops upon any Account under a supposition that they might be obliged to assist the Mahratta state with a part of their present Force We acquainted them that it was not without the greatest exertions that we had it in our power to send them the necessary supplies to keep up their Military Establishment, and that, altho' your Honourable Court had ordered in your General Letter that it should be increased to the strength mentioned in a Statement which we transmitted to them, we did not conceive that they would find it possible to carry your Instructions on this subject into execution unless you had provided funds which were unknown to us to enable them to defray the Additional expence that would be incurred by an obedience to your Commands

9 The allied Army with the Nazim and Nana Furnavese crossed the Kistna on the 23d of March at Cuppet Sungum about 110 Coss from Poona Detachments from the allied Army and from Tippoo's Troops have respectively met with various fortune, but no action that we know of has happened Mr Malet acquaints us in his last letter that the plundering parties of the Allied Army have overrun large tracts of Country and have established Forts in many of the Districts that formerly belonged to the Mahrattas but that no place of strength has yet been subdued We have Reason to believe however upon late Information received that the Mahrattas have been successful against Buddamani a Fort of considerable strength which formerly belonged to the Maratta Government We know not precisely to what cause to attribute the departure of Nizam Ally Cawn from the Camps of the Allies, Certain it is however that his Highness has moved towards Hydrabad, leaving a force under the Command of Musheer-ul-Mulck and consisting of 15,000 Horse and 20,000 Foot with the Army of the Mahratta State

10. Our last Intelligence from Hydrabad mentions that a French Gentleman had arrived with the Nazim with letters from Monsi Le Vicompte de Souillac, the French Governor General and from Monsi de Cossigny Governor of Pondicherry that the Nazim had received him and the Letters with indifference, and that the Minister had desired the French Gentlemen to return to Hydrabad and that after the Soubah's arrival there he would obtain his Answers

11 Mr Anderson whose reasons for leaving Sindia's Camp were stated to you in our Letter of the 24th March arrived at Agra on the 15th of March and was received with particular Marks of attention by the Governor of the Town who came out to a considerable distance to meet him and had attended him to his place of residence It seems that Mr. Anderson's departure from Camp had made a deeper impression upon Mahajee Sindia than was supposed and that he at first attributed it

to a deeper cause than the real one he was apprehensive that it might be the prelude of an intended rupture with him and therefore showed a disposition to desist from his plan of a total subjection of the Jeypore Country and to come to a composition with the Raja about the period of Mr Anderson's arrival at Agra he received Intelligence of the flight of Hemmet Buhadre from Minttrah to the borders of the Vizier's Country an event which he observed must certainly have happened sooner or later but he feared would be attributed to his own disagreement with Sindia All that we could do was to prove in the most unequivocal manner by our subsequent conduct that we had not countenanced such a step and Mr Anderson having received a Letter from Hemmet Buhadre very properly sent it unopened to Sindia and confined the bearer of it until he should hear from him. The Governor General was soon advised by Colonel Harper that Hemmet Buhadre had suddenly crossed the Jumna with intention of taking refuge with the Vizier near whose frontier he was arrived and who had received an Arzee from him for leave to present himself at Lucknow and that he was followed by a considerable body of Troops from the Mahratta Service who had however strict Orders not to pursue him beyond the line of the Vizier's Frontier or to take any hostile measure if he should have accomplished his retreat beyond the Mahratta Districts. His Brother Omrow Gheer Colonel Harper mentioned had defeated the Mahratta Detachment which had entered his Jagheer but as it was not possible he could maintain himself against the Force that would be sent against him he intended crossing the Ganges to take refuge in Rohilleund The Vizier had with Colonel Harper's advice given orders that Hemmet Buhadre should not advance towards Lucknow and Instructions were dispatched to the Vizier's Posts on the Banks of the Ganges not to suffer Omrow Gheer to pass the River lest it should draw on Hostilities with the Mahrattas. Instructions were soon sent by our Authority to Colonel Harper to communicate our wish to the Nabob Vizier that no protection should be afforded either to Hemmet Buhadre or his Brother

12. The first Impression which Sindia had received upon Mr Anderson's Departure from his Camp that it foreboded an intended Rupture with him on the part of the English being removed and his mind relieved on this subject he soon determined on the Prosecution of his views against Jeypore We hear that a settlement was concluded with the Raja but that neither Party would take any Steps in the Performance of it from their mutual Distrust of each other and it really appeared for some time uncertain whether Scindia would persevere in his original Intention of attempting a complete Conquest of the Jeypore Dominions or rest satisfied with a Tribute and return before the rains to Delg Under these Doubts and apprehending that such an accession of Power and Dominion as Scindia would obtain by the acquisition of Jeypore might be eventually hurtful to your Interests Regarding also with a jealous eye the gradual Progress which his arms had made from the Reduction of Gwalior and Ghode to the Establishment of his Influence in Bundelund so near Benares and at Algur which

is in the Neighbourhood of the Vizier's Frontier, the Governor General expressed his Sentiments fully on these Subjects to Mr Anderson, whose Answer is so full in its Recital of your present Connection with Scindia, his Opinion of Scindia's views, and of the safest and most effectual means of checking them that we shall not fail to send you a Copy of it by the first Sea conveyance. The Raja of Jeypore had himself appealed to us for Protection, and his applications had been supported with earnestness by the Shahzada. Considering the Subject mainly, we left it to the Governor General to take such measures with respect to Scindia's attempts upon the Jeypore Country as ought to be satisfactory to the Rajah, at the same time that they should not involve us in trouble with Mahajee Scindia.

13 Late Letters from Mr Anderson mention that in the course of conversation with Bhow Buckshey who had joined him at Agra, the Bow acquainted him that according to the last advices he had received from Camp, the Negotiation with the Raja of Jeypore was in the most favorable train, and that Scindia, being now perfectly at ease on this score was preparing to return with the Army to Canton during the Rains whilst the King was to proceed to Delhie, but Mr Anderson is not certain whether Scindia will canton during the Rains at Deig, or resume his former Station at Muttiah, as his Resolution will entirely depend on the part his Majesty may take of remaining with the Army or proceeding to Delhie, "Scindia is extremely desirous of preventing the latter and as there are no suitable accommodation for him at Muttiah he means to use all his Endeavours to prevail upon him to continue during the Rains in the Palace at Deig. Beside His reluctance to suffer the King to go to any Distance from him, it is believed that he means to attempt during the Rains the Reduction of the neighbouring Fort of Buritpore to which the presence of his Majesty may perhaps contribute. This Fort is in the possession of Runjeet Sing, and with a small territory of three or four Lacks of Rupees annually, it forms the whole of the present Dominions of that once formidable power the Jauts, Sooridge Mull, the Father of the present Rajah, was supposed to have been possessed of great Treasure and, as nothing was discovered after his Death, Scindia has probably some hopes of obtaining the possession of it."

14. Bow Bucksey has acquainted Mr Anderson that "Appa Candy Row had at length come to a Settlement with Benny Huzzoory, and would now soon return from the Province of Bundelcund with his Troops."

15 We shall close this subject of our Letter as far it relates to Mahajee by acquainting you with what has passed in regard to Mr Anderson's return to his Camp.

16 You are informed of the Discretion which we reposed in Mr. Anderson to return or not as circumstances might appear to him to render proper. His Resolution was soon taken to declare his Determination to return, provided he was previously assured of the actual dismissal of the People from Scindia's Camp whose Intrigues had been the cause of his

quitting it and that a proper attention was shewn to him in the Deputation of one of Scindia's Chiefs For this purpose he wrote to Scindia generally on the subject referring him to Bow Buckshey for a full knowledge of his wishes and Intentions He soon found that Scindia had anticipated the first and principal Point he had required by the actual Dismissal of the people from his Camp of which your Resident received certain Information immediately after the Dispatch of his Letter On the Receipt of these Letters Scindia gave orders to Bhaw Buckshey to go to Mr Anderson at Agra. He did so and having arrived there on the 29th of last Month waited on Mr Anderson immediately Their subsequent Conversations were full on the Occasion of your Resident leaving Scindia and Bow Buckshey assured him that Scindia and himself were perfectly convinced of the propriety of his conduct Mr Anderson left Agra on the 12th Instant to rejoin the Army and expected to reach it in four Days nearly about the time of its arrival at Deig

17 The Prince Mirza Jewan Bekt has repeatedly and pressingly desired to come to Calcutta¹ and it has sometimes been supposed that if this were not allowed he would adopt the alternative of resorting to Sindia The Governor General is using his best endeavours to prevent both and we hope that his Royal Highness may be prevailed on to remain at Lucknow

18 We have nothing material to report to you from Lucknow The orders contained in the 6th 7th 8th 17th and 18th Paragraphs of your General Letter of 21st September 1785 will receive our early consideration The Vizier and his Minister had earlier Intimation of some orders from England than this Government as will be hereafter Explained to you He has not as yet required the recall of the Futtygur Detachment The Balance due from the Nabob Vizier at the end of last Month was Fyzabad 16 Sun Sleca Rupees 23 24 737 1/3

19 The Raja of Benares has liquidated his 7th Kist for Chayta which ended about the Middle of April

20 Your late Military Arrangements are being carried into execution it will appear to you that there are one Company of Artillery and Battalion of European Infantry and two Battalions of Sepoys more than usual but in consequence of the reduced strength of these Corps the actual Force will be only the same as it was

21 The speedy discharge of the Arrears due to the Army which was the first object of your present Administration and to complete which your Regulations of 20th December last were adapted prevented us from applying any considerable Sums to the discharge of paper according to the principle established by our Resolution of 20th December 1785 We were soon advised that the Madras Government had engaged with Messrs Lorch and Redhead and Mr Menzies to Discount the Bills which we pledged ourselves to pay in the course of Eight Months after date on account of the Military Arrears of that Presidency at the extravagant rate of 30 per cent. Apprehensive that the knowledge of this circumstance would

tend to carry the Rate of Discount at which our Certificates had been negotiated still higher than it then was, and as we found that the utmost advantage was taken of the necessity which many of the Servants and Dependants of this Government were subject to of selling their Certificates in order to procure the means of subsistence, we deemed it necessary to adopt an Arrangement that seemed likely to remove this Evil, and therefore on the 22d May 1785, having previously ascertained that the Expectation which we had encouraged the Public to form of our ability to discharge the paper in circulation in the course of twelve Months after it had been issued might nevertheless be fulfilled, we resolved to permit all the Servants of the Company and the other dependants of this Government receiving monthly not more than 1000 Current Rupees to be paid wholly in Cash, and those receiving monthly above that Sum to be paid half in Cash and half in Certificates, and we have the pleasure to inform you that although we have since issued 10/16 of the Contracts for the present years Investment in Certificates the Discount has fallen considerably and is now at 10 1 6 in Certificates and 23 3 1 in Bonds

22 This Regulation has been communicated by the Governor General to the Nabob Mobarec ul Dowla and his principal Servants, and will we trust, remove the discontent which they had expressed in consequence of our former regulation, which provided that all the payments to them should be made in Certificates

23 The Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature having intimated to us that, if the Reduction List of Civil Retrenchment Accompanying Seperate General Letter 11th April 1785 Ordered by your Hon'ble Court of the Allowance for the temporary Establishment of Ministerial Officers under the Sitting Justice was carried into execution they should be under the necessity of declining to execute the Office of Justices of the Peace, we have agreed that this allowance shall be continued till your pleasure shall be known

24 On the receipt of your Orders of the 21st September 1785 per Talbot which communicated to us your commands for the formation of a permanent Military Peace Establishment to be kept up under this Presidency, we lost no time in taking the same into our most serious consideration, and deliberating upon the measures to be adopted for giving them Effect Our construction of these Orders did not entirely agree with the Interpretation put upon them by the Commander in Chief but the limits which we are obliged to assign to this address will not admit of our entering fully into the reasons which influenced both suffice it to say that we have adhered to the best of our Judgement to the Spirit of your commands altho' we may not have been exact in following the Letter of them We shall be content at present with stating the Resolutions which have been passed by a Majority of the Board as the Basis of the Permanent Arrangement adopted in obedience to your Commands, requesting only that if you should deem it to require Explanation, you will wait the arrival of our Proceedings before you

determine on them

Resolution

1 That the Establishment ordered by the Company in their Separate General Letter of the 31st September to be the fixed Peace Establishment of their Army in Bengal be published in General and Garrison Orders and declared to be their fixed Military Peace Establishment

2 That those Officers who wish to return to Europe shall not only have the half Pay of their respective Ranks but have the expence of their Passage to Europe defrayed by the Company

3 That the Bengal Peace Establishment ordered by the Company be completed from the Officers of the Army senior in the line and that the Supernumeraries to the new Establishment do only receive the Pay Batta and allowances of the next inferior Rank and not those of their rank in the line that is that Supernumerary Majors do receive the Pay, Batta and allowances of Captains and to Supernumerary Captains the Pay Batta and Allowances of Lieutenants.

4. As by these Resolutions the actual Supernumeraries who continue in the Country, and according to the letter of the Company's Instructions are to be put on half pay will be principally the Junior Officers of the Army and consist chiefly if not entirely of Subalterns that the Board from a due regard to their situation and the expence of Subsistence in this Country do continue to them the Pay which they now draw, and half Batta till the pleasure of the Court of Directors is known.

25 You will be advised from the Public Department of the Institution of the Military Board and the Boards of Revenue and Commerce The Hospital Board has also been constituted and Ordered to assemble at the Presidency and is formed as directed in your Orders

26 We have actually completed a Code of Military Regulations and have now nearly arranged it so as to accommodate it to your Orders of the 21st September It will be transmitted to you in course by the first Sea Conveyance.

27 We have already had the Honor to acquaint you that the President and Council at Fort Saint George had referred to us for our decision on them the claims which had been preferred to them by the Vicomte de Souillac on behalf of the French Nation to a total Exemption from duties at Masulipatam and our other Establishments upon the Coast of Coromandel founded upon the Construction which he thought proper to put upon the 13th Article of the late Treaty of Peace Since the date of our last advice they have transmitted to us their late Correspondence with Monar De Cosigny Governor of Pondicherry and with the Chief and Council of Masulipatam upon the subject of the French Claims but as these are nearly similar to the Pretensions which have been brought forward by Mr Dangereux in regard to the French Trade in Bengal, which are in reference

before you, and as we did not deem ourselves warranted to accede to them, we have not thought it necessary to give any opinion on the Subject till we are advised of the Effect of our Representation in January last to the French Governor General of which you would receive a regular Account by the Fox Packet

28 Your Decision upon the Questions already submitted to you. Determination will apply to those which arise from the Claims contained in the correspondence of Monsr Le Vicompte de Souillac and Monsr. De Cossigny, in as far as they regard the Privileges of Trade and we shall anxiously await the receipt of it which will we trust, in tracing out a Clear and precise Line for our conduct, Establish upon the firmest Foundation the Harmony which it is our wish to preserve inviolate between your Servants and those of his Most Christian Majesty in India

29. Since the Date of our Resolutions of the 9th March communicated to you in our General Letter from this Department of the 24th of the same month, we have received a Letter from Mr Commissary Wilton acquainting us that the Restoration of the French Possessions conformably to the 11th Article of the Definitive Treaty and to those Resolutions had been completed with all possible Precision, in as far as depending on him, that he had furnished Mr Dangereux with Letters to such of our Revenue Chiefs and Collectors as reside in those parts of the Provinces where the French had Factories, requiring them to make over the French Possessions and to afford their Chiefs every just and reasonable support that may be in their power in their Commercial Transactions, and to preserve as much as in their power, Harmony and good understanding with them

30 These Letters have been entirely satisfactory to Mr Dangeraux who has written to Mr Wilton a Letter of Thanks for the Terms in which they were drawn up, considering it as calculated to put a decisive End to the Contest which had hitherto impeded a termination of the Points to which they referred

31 Mr Dangereux has lately renewed the Pretensions which came under our discussion in the course of the last year in regard to Dustucs, and has requested that they may be allowed to pass freely untill the Receipt of your Decision and that of the Court of France upon the subject, but as this Claim has been referred with some of Mr Dangereux's other Requisitions to your Honourable Court, we have not thought proper to admit this present exercise of this Privilege but have informed him that we shall wait the Decision of the respective Courts of Great Britain and France upon the Points referred to them of which the Regulation for the Trade of Foreign Nations forms a Material Point

32 Mr Dangereux has been allowed two hundred Chests of Opium as the supply of the present season, being the same Quantity as was granted to him last year

33 The Objects which we had Originally in view on the Appointment of Mr Wilton to the Office of Commissary at Chandernagore having been brought to a Conclusion that Gentleman requested a communication

of our Commands in regard to the Continuation or abolition of his office, but as he had conducted the duties of his Station to our entire satisfaction and much to his own credit and as we were of Opinion that the Experience which he has acquired in the Affairs of the French may yet be very serviceable to Government we have therefore desired Mr Wilton to continue in the Office of Commissary for French Affairs and to assist the Secretary in conducting the Correspondence of this Government with the Dutch and Danes.

Fort William
30th June 1786

We have the Honor to be & cto

P S Since the above Letter was written the Venus a French Frigate from Mauritius, has arrived here having on board Lieutenant Young of his Majesty's 78th Regiment the Officer who attended Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart as his Secretary and assistant to the Deputation with which the Colonel was charged in January last to the French Government General. Colonel Cathcart's Dispatches have been Delivered to us by Lieutenant Young and are full on the important Subjects of his Commission. The Size to which this Packet going overland must of necessity be contracted will not admit of our sending you Copies of all the Papers which we have received. This however is a subject of less concern to us as we hope that Colonel Cathcart's Arrival in England before your Receipt of our present Advice will have made you fully acquainted with his negotiations with the French Government General. We are content to send you enclosed a Copy of the Provisional Convention which he entered into at the Isle of France on the 30th of April with Mr Le Vicomte de Souillac in Explanation of the 13th 14th and 15th Articles of the Treaty of Peace between their Britannic and Most Christian Majesty concluded at Versailles on the 3d September 1783 which Provisional Convention is to have Effect until the Decision of our Respective Courts. At the close of it you will observe a definitive Agreement for the Reparation we had offered long since to Mr Dangereux but which he had not then Authority to accept for the Accident which happened to the French Corvette L. Esperance at Budge Budge.

We shall ratify these Agreements having pledged ourselves to this effect in Colonel Cathcart's Commission and we shall carry them into early execution. The whole Dispatch from the Isle of France will be transmitted to you in the course of the present Month by a Sea Conveyance and will be accompanied by our Opinions on such stipulations entered into by Colonel Cathcart with the French Government General as appear to us to admit of Improvement or addition that you may have before you all the Lights and Information we can furnish to assist the formation of a New and lasting Treaty of Commerce with the French Nation in India.

5th July 1786

LETTER DATED 28 AUGUST 1786

Departments reorganised—Nawab Vazir's subsidy for Fatehgarh detachment—Arcot and Tanjore affairs—assistance to the Marathas—Tipu's movements—Anderson's departure from Sindia's Camp—Benares balances—Colonel Cathcart's trade agreement—Dutch claims to Broach—Danish grievances—military peace establishments—reduction in civil expenditure.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon'ble Sirs,

1 In our General Advices via Bussorah, dated the 30th June and containing a Postscript dated the 5th Ultimo, we had the Honor to transmit to you such Intelligence as we deemed worthy of your Notice, since the date of our Dispatches by your ship Winterton of the 24th March, We have now the Honor to transmit to you by the Severn a full Detail of all that has passed since the 24th March, and hope to be excused if we mix with it much of what was written in our last Letter overland that the Chain of our General Narrative may not be broken

2 As soon as possible after the Receipt of your Orders of the 21st September 1785 for the Arrangement of the Departments¹ under this Government, we considered the Public and Secret Departments as the only offices under the charge of Secretaries, immediately appertaining to the Board of Council, we accordingly defined their respective Duties Those assigned to the Secret Department appear in our Proceedings of the 31st May

3 In Pursuance of the Arrangement then passed, our Advices from this Department are directed to be placed under the following distinct Heads vizt Political, Foreign, Military Military Department of Inspection, and Reforms

4 The Subjects contained under the Heads of Military and Military Department of Inspection will include our Correspondence with the Military and Hospital Boards appointed by your Orders of 21st September, 1785, and refer to their Proceedings, which will be sent to you, with our own, as we receive them The subjects contained under the Head of Reforms will shew you our Reductions of Expence, and such general Regulations as can be deemed matters of Reform, and have been passed in the Secret Department

Political

5 Our Proceedings in the Political Department are herewith transmitted to you commencing on the 22d March and ending on the 17th Instant An Index accompanies them

6 We have the Honor to reply from this Department to the 6th 7th, 8th 15th 16th 17th 18th 19th 20th 21st 22nd 23d 24th 25th 26th 27th 28th and 29th Paragraphs of your General Letter dated 21st September 1785

7 Upon our Receipt of these Instructions we were rather embarrassed in what manner to carry them strictly into Execution His Excellency the Naboh Vizier having concluded a voluntary Agreement with Lientenant Colonel Harper for the present Fussullee year ending in September 1786 which afforded Advantages to the Company superior in our Judgment of them to those allowed in the Treaty of Chunar or to those obtained by your late Governor General in the year 1784.

8 Your Orders, however left us without a Doubt that your Intention was that the Naboh Vizier should not after the 1st of January 1785 be at any Charge for your Troops serving in his Dominions excepting for the Brigade at Cawnpore and Regiment at Lucnow unless the assistance of the Futtighur Detachment or any Part of it had been required or should be required by his Excellency for his own security in which case the Expence thereof was to be carried to his Account agreeably to the Stipulations of the Treaty of 1781

9 It certainly happened in the course of the last year that the Vizier did require first the assistance of a Part and afterwards that of the whole Detachment for the Protection of his Frontier against the Seiks.

10 We are hopeful that in the Resolutions we have passed for preparing the Account between the Vizier and the Company we shall appear to you to have been attentive to the Spirit of your Orders, and to the Justice due to the Nabob

11 On the 28th January 1785 his Excellency required two Regiments of Sepoys from the Futtighur Detachment for the Protection of his Frontier against the Seiks, and the 1st and 2nd Regiments actually marched from Futtighur on the 1st of February We have therefore directed that the Subsidy of Twenty five Thousand Sonat Rupees per Mensem be charged to the Nabob's Debit for each of these Regiments from the 1st February until their return into Cantonments on the 6th of June

12. On the 4th February 1785 the Vizier required the remainder of the Futtighur Detachment and the 15th and 18th Regiments of Sepoys with a Company of Artillery and a Rossollah of Cavalry marched out of Cantonments on the 12th of that Month We have therefore directed that the Subsidy of Sonat Rupees Twenty five Thousand be charged to the Nabob's Debit for each of the three Regiments of Sepoys and Twenty thousand Rupees per Mensem for the Company of Artillery from the 12th of February until their return into Cantonments on the 6th of June but as it does not appear that any Sum has been fixed as the Subsidy for a Rossollah of Cavalry we have directed that this should be determined by the Proportion which its actual Expence bears to the Subsidy agreed upon for a Regiment of Sepoys

13. Although the Nabob Vizier on the 20th of February 1785 countermanded the March of the Detachment under Colonel Sir John Cumming yet he did not think proper to protest against its proceeding, after a Representation made to him by the Colonel of the Necessity of its remaining on the Frontier until the rise of the river should prevent the return of the Seiks We have therefore considered the Nabob chargeable with the Subsidy for the whole Detachment to the Day on which it returned to Futtyghur, and as the 18th Regiment of Sepoys was detached from the Corps under Sir John Cumming for the Protection of the Cantonments, which are actually the Vizier's Property, we have directed that he should be charged with the Subsidy for it while it was employed upon such Service.

14. Having been induced from Motives of apprehension for the Safety of the Vizier's Dominions to continue a Part of your Army at Futtyghur, and two Rossollahs of Cavalry out of the Company's Provinces, we have deemed ourselves entitled to expect that the Vizier should reimburse the Company the Difference between what has actually been paid to these Troops and what would have been paid to them had they been stationed in the Company's Territories, and, as the Corps of Foreign Rangers was detached for some Time out of the Company's Provinces for no other purpose than the Security of the Vizier's Country, the additional Expence incurred by their March and absence from the Company's Provinces is also considered as a part of the Claim which this Government has upon the Nabob

15. Not deeming that Defence sufficient which the Vizier could afford to his Frontier if there were not a greater Number of your Troops stationed in his Dominions than that stipulated by the Treaty of 1781, and being therefore induced to keep a Considerable Part of the Military Establishment, allowed by your Separate General Letter of the 21st September 1785, in the Dominions of the Nabob Vizier, at a greater Expence than would be incurred if they were stationed within these Provinces, we are hopeful that we have accomplished the objects which your Hon'ble Court must have had in view by your Orders of the 21st September 1785 in as far as the present situation of affairs in the Upper Provinces will warrant, and that the Claim upon the Nabob Vizier which we consider ourselves entitled to prefer, tho' not literally provided for by the Treaty of 1781 and the Agreement made between the late Governor General and the Vizier in 1784 will appear so reasonable that neither His Excellency nor his Ministers can object to complying with it But as it is evident from the Amount which they engaged to provide, by the Kistbundy of the Fussullee year 1193, that they deemed themselves bound to contribute much more to the Diminution of the Company's Expence than this Claim will come to, we are clearly of Opinion that, altho' we need not require more of the Nabob than its Amount, if the state of his Finances should admit of his fulfilling the Engagement which, by Implication, the Kistbundy of 1193 contains, we might apply the Sum so received to the relief of the Company's Embarrassments As a knowledge, however, of this

moderate Intention might induce the Minister to withhold a Part of the Sum stipulated by the Kiathundy under a pretended defalcation of the Funds destined for the Performance of this Engagement we have directed the Commissary General and Accountant General to be cautious of intimating the Principles upon which the one is to afford the other the information which is required to ascertain the amount due from the Nabob Vizier on the 30th April 1786 and we have agreed that untill the Settlement for the ensuing Year shall have been made with the Vizier and his Ministers our Resolutions should not be entered upon record hnt a Copy of them transmitted to the Governor General's Agent to enable him to determine upon the sufficiency of the Funds that may be offered for the Liquidation of the Balance due to the Company at the End of the present year and for the Services of the ensuing one

16 In the 18th Paragraph of your General Letter you direct that even during the Time that the Vizier may call for the assistance of the Futtighur Detachment the whole Expence of the Staff Batta and other Contingencies be *abolished* Doubtful of the Constrction to be put upon this Order we have deferred carrying it into Execution until your Pleasure be known and we submit it to your consideration whether a considerable Detachment can move without some Staff and without incurring some Contingent Charge and whether it might not create alarming Discontents if your Troops at Futtighur were not to receive Batta in Common with your Troops at other Stations

17 In this Place we beg leave to call your Attention to a Minute lately delivered by the Governor General on the General Subject of your Orders for the charge to be admitted against the Nabob Vizier It is transmitted to you in Number in the Packet and while you attend to the Arguments used in the Minute we wish you to consider that by the regulations proposed to us by the Commander in Chief no Extra Officers are allowed to the Detachment serving without the Provinces which has made an Important diminution in their Expence

18 In consequence of the directions contained in this Paragraph we have appointed Mr George Forster Maratta Interpreter under this Government with the same personal Allowances as are drawn by the Persian Translator and we have acquainted Mr Forster that when ever any Establishment shall be necessary for his Office we will determine on it We have no doubt that Mr Forster's knowledge of the Oriental Language and that arising from his travels in the western Parts of India will render him very fit to be employed in future Negotiations and we shall readily avail ourselves of his Services whenever Occasions may arise for them

19 Major Palmer having applied to us for a Copy of this Paragraph understanding that "you had been pleased to Notice with approbation his appointment by the late Governor General to reside as his Public Agent at the Durbar of the Nabob Vizier and to recommend his Continuance at that Station We directed our Secretary to inform him

that the 'Terms of the Paragraph were not as he understood them, as he would observe by a Copy thereof transmitted to him, that it did not "notice with approbation his appointment by the late Governor General to reside as his Public Agent at the Durbar of the Nabob Vizier" nor 'recommend his Continuance at that Station," the Paragraph appearing to be merely a Reply to that addressed by this Government to your Hon'ble Court on the 22d February 1785 in which you were acquainted "that Major Palmer, who was placed by Mr Hastings as the Governor General's Private Agent at the Court of the Vizier after the Public Residency was withdrawn, remains still at Lucknow "

20 A Copy of this Paragraph was sent to Mr Bristow and Mr Cowper

21 We directed that Mr Richard Johnson should be furnished with a Copy of these Paragraphs We are happy to observe that we had anticipated your Orders for his recall by the Resolution which we passed for that Purpose so long ago as on the 1st March 1785, which was the Period at which you remark that such a Measure was requisite.

22 We Communicated with great Satisfaction to Lieutenant Anderson, your Resident with Mahajee Sindia, the sense which your Hon ble Court has entertained of his able and prudent Conduct in that Station

23. Our Advices of the 9th January last communicated to you the appointment of Mr Malet to be resident at Poona and the entire assent ultimately given by Mahajee Sindia to that Measure

24 We shall solicit your Attention to the Subject of this Paragraph before we close our present Address

25 On the 8th of February last, and before the Receipt of your Commands, we had agreed to provide for the Debt to the King of Travencore by authorizing your President and Council at Bombay to draw on us in Certificate for the Amount, but, they not being able to obtain any Supplies in this Mode, the Debt we believe yet remains undischarged We have resolved, however, on the Means of liquidating it by a late Note of supply to that Presidency of which you will be advised from the Public Department

26 Having now acquainted you with the Resolutions which we have passed on your Orders of the 21st September 1785 appertaining to this Department, we shall proceed to lay before you the several Occurrences that have come within our Knowledge since we addressed you on the 24th of March

27 Our Letter under that Date conveyed to you the last Information which we had received from your Presidency at Fort Cons. 8th Febry and 29th March St George in respect to the Detachment sent under the Command of Colonel Sir Henry Cosby against the Polygars in the Tinnevelly and Madura Districts Being displeased that so considerable a Detachment should have been ordered upon Consn 24th April this Service without our Sanction, we informed your late President and Council thereof Then reply assured us that they should

not have passed ultimate Resolutions without having previously obtained our Concurrence had they not deemed the application of the Nabob to be of a Nature that required immediate Determination Your President and Council further observed after the Nabob had declared that if there was any Delay in bringing the Polygars to a sense of their Duty his Payments to the Company would be retarded after they had reflected that as the Crop was on the Ground their Refusal to give the desired assistance might expose it to Depredation and that they should consequently be deprived in such Event of that pecuniary Aid upon which they depended for the Monthly payments to the Troops they conceived themselves warranted from the necessity of the Case in acquiescing in his Highness's requisition and the more so as they believed and were assured by the Nabob that the appearance of a Detachment in the Southern Districts, consisting of about 1700 Men would be sufficient to recall the Polygars to obedience

28 Your President and Council acquainted us also that they took every Precaution in their Power to prevent any bad Consequences and they had the Satisfaction to report that none had resulted and that the Nabob's Authority has been supported without the exertion of any Force and without the Dispossession of any Polygar

29 Your late President and Council at Fort St George addressed us on the 4th of April respecting a Difference of Opinion which had arisen between their President and Mr Floyer relative to the Interest upon the Nabob's Debts and they requested our sentiments on the subject referring us for the Arguments adduced on both sides to their Minutes of Consultation on the 15th 23d and 28th March Sir Archibald Campbell being arrived at Fort St George when this reference came under our Consideration and not doubting that he was fully informed of the Wishes and Intentions of your Honble Court upon all Subjects relating to Affairs at that Presidency we requested that the Question between Mr Davidson and Mr Floyer might be referred to his Opinion and we expressed our Hope that they would be guided by it

30 We have the Pleasure to acquaint you that the Engagements of his Highness the Nabob Walaw Jaw for paying to the Company Sixteen Lacs of Pagodas were completely fulfilled on the 1st of last Month and that his Akhs were severally discharged before they became due A Balance of Pagodas 110000* remaining unpaid to the Nabob of the Sixth part of the Revenues of the Carnatic when the Country was restored to him His Highness as assured by Governor Davidson on the 2d February 1780 that the sum should be paid in account of the 3d Akhs and he had taken Credit for it accordingly But Sir Archibald Campbell having expressed a Desire that his Highness would complete the full Sum of Sixteen Lacs of Pagodas without this Deduction from it it seems to have been readily discharged and Sir

* 14600 according to another copy

Archibald Campbell has expressed his acknowledgements on the occasion to the Nabob in strong Terms, admitting at the same time that His Highness's Right to the Balance before mentioned is both just and reasonable

31 It is with sincere Pleasure we have observed the Nabob's punctuality in performing such important Engagements in the Spirit of your Orders of the 9th of December 1784 The result has diffused Prosperity in your Settlement of Fort St George and revived the drooping Powers of Public and of Private Credit The Part which this Government took in enforcing and supporting your orders relative to the Carnatic will not escape your attention Had these orders been suspended the Consequences are obvious They could not have been creditable to the Justice of the Nation nor beneficial to Fort St George

32 We transmit to you a Number in this Packet Translation of a Letter which the Governor General has received from the Raja of Tanjore bearing date the 30th May

33 The Raja's Situation was fully known to your present Governor of Fort St George, and such were the Melancholy Accounts which he received of the Raja's Country, and of the rapid and alarming Emigration of its Inhabitants, owing to the weak and wicked Management of the Raja's present Minister Bawa, that Sir Archibald Campbell thought it his Duty to write a very serious Letter to the Raja admonishing him in the strongest Terms to divest that Minister of his Power, and to entrust the Management of his Affairs to hands which he knew to be capable of remedying the Evils complained of, and of preventing the utter ruin of Tanjore

34 The Raja declining to comply with this Salutary advice, notwithstanding the Support it received from the earnest Recommendation of Mr Huddleston, your Resident at Tanjore, Sir Archibald Campbell delivered in a Minute on the 25th Ultimo strongly recommending that our serious attention should be requested "to the dangers which are to be apprehended if the affairs of the Raja are suffered to continue their present Carcer, which from every Intelligence he could learn must ultimately lead to immediate Destruction," and offering several strong Arguments in support of the immediate appointment of a Committee of Inspection to watch over the Political affairs of the Tanjore Country

35 This Committee, consisting of the Resident, the Commandant of the Garrison, and the Paymaster, has been actually established Their Instructions and all the Papers relative to them (Copies whereof are sent Numbers in this Packet) have been transmitted to us with a Request from your President and Council that we will afford them our advice and Directions relative to their future Proceedings These we shall furnish with the least possible Delay

36 In order to impress you with a just Idea of the present Disputes and Movements among the Country Powers which can alone be collected from extensive and Minute Detail, we shall take particular Pains in the present Dispatch to be very full in our Narrative, and we wish you to peruse the whole with the most deliberate attention

37 Sir Archibald Campbell has transmitted to your Governor General a Copy of a Letter which he has received from Lieutenant Graham a very alert and intelligent Officer stationed at Permacoil The letter is dated the 16th of June and contains an account of the Progress made by the French in completing the Fortifications at Pondicherry and of the Importation of a Quantity of Military Stores It also mentions a report current at Pondicherry that several Ships with Troops and an officer on Board were arrived at Trincomale and that some Guns had been sent to the Northward and were intended as a Present to the Nizam.

38 We have learned with great concern that the Ill state of Health of your Commander in Chief on the Coast of Coromandel rendering him unequal to the fatigues of his Department and particular Dnty he proposes to return to Europe in the course of the ensuing Season Notice of this

Military Consa
16th June

Intention was communicated by his Secretary who came to Bengal to the Commander in Chief of your Forces and by him to our Board. We have sent our assurances to

Sir John Dalling that if the ill state of his Health should ultimately oblige him to proceed to Europe we shall agreeably to his request direct one of your Ships to call at Fort St. George for the conveyance of himself and his family to England and recommend to the President and Council to defray the Expence of his Passage according to his Request

39 His Majesty's 23d Regiment of Light Dragoons being much in want of Horses and as we deemed it of much Consequence that this Regiment should be kept up so as to be always fit for actual and effective Service, we have taken upon us the Expence of recruiting it upon the same Terms as were allowed to the Inte Sir John Burgoyne and which we deem very reasonable

40 In our Advices of the 24th March we acquainted you with the Alarm which your Chief and Factors at Tellicherry appeared to be under for the safety of that Settlement in consequence of a Confederacy of the petty Rajas on the Malabar Coast who were supposed to have been privately encouraged in their Designs by the Nabob Tippoo Sultan We also informed you of the Measures which we had taken and desired the President and Council at Bombay to take relief and support of that

Cons. 16th May
and 23rd June

Settlement Your President and Council have since informed us that they do not consider Tellicherry is in any Danger of being attacked but they have very properly

complied with an Indent from the Chief and Factors for Military Stores that they might be prepared against any possible danger during the Rains when the President and Council might not be able to afford relief to that Subordinate They have also reinforced it with a Company of European Infantry and as many more Europeans as would complete the Company that was there before the Garrison being thus made to consist of a Battalion of Sepoys, 2 Companies of European Infantry about 10 Artillery and 1500 Militia The President and Council had proposed sending another Battalion of Sepoys to Tellicherry but such was their distress for

Funds, owing principally to a temporary failure in the payment of Bills which we had remitted to them, from Lucnow that they could not supply the necessary means of providing for that reinforcement. The Prince of Cherrika possessed himself of the Province of Rhandoterialah on the 20th of January. The Company's People were withdrawn, and he met with no opposition. The President and Council at Bombay Consn 29th March have expressed their Hope that his Account with the Company will be amicably adjusted. Tippoo did interfere in some degree to have this matter settled, but such have been the Evasions of the Prince of Cherrika that we do not entertain much expectation of the Payment of the Debt without compulsive Measures, which it may not be prudent to Hazard while a Probability exists that they may involve you in troubles of a more serious nature.

41 It is not very probable that Tippoo will wish a rupture with the English while his Troops are not only employed against the Allied Forces of the Soubahdar of the Deccan, and the Maratta State, but have a Considerable Body of internal Enemies to oppose. Yet there are some Circumstances in his Conduct which give it a dubious aspect. Onore Fort has been demolished, and the ancient Inhabitants removed either to Seringapatam or Mangalore. The small Post of Mount Delhi has not been yet restored according to Treaty. A number of English Prisoners are yet detained in his Country, and he has not thought proper to take off the general Embargo which he imposed upon the Exportation of those Staple Productions of his Country which have furnished Cargoes for your homeward bound Ships from the Coast of Malabar, and without which they cannot be loaded. His Answers to the Governor General upon the Subject of the Prisoners are evasive, but profess steady friendship and a Disposition to remain at Peace with the English.

42 The Raja of Bownagur having applied to your President and Council at Bombay for the Loan of two small Mortars with Stores, and a few Men to work the Mortars, that he might be enabled to reduce the Cooley Fort at Wajmagur which he could not effect without such Assistance, and the Coolies being a Nest of Pirates who were every Season distressing the Trade of the English by capturing the Merchant Boats, Consn 16th May your President and Council did not hesitate to agree to the Raja's request in the Hope that he would with this Aid be enabled to extirpate the Coolies from one of their principal strong Holds, but limited the Number of Men to be allowed to 8 Europeans and 12 Lascars.

43 We concurred in the Expediency of granting this Assistance to the Raja of Bownagur provided it was not likely to commit the Company in the necessity of proceeding further, or implicate them Consn 16th May in Hostilities with any of the Powers with whom the Coolies might be connected. We did not believe, however, that there was any Hazard of this Kind, and mentioned it merely as possible.

44 One of the last letters which the Governor General has received from the Nabob Tippoo Sultan is recorded on our Proceedings of the 16th

May and we beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings of Consn. 2nd August the 2d Instant for the Perusal of some Intelligence laid before us by the Governor General of late Occurrences in Tippoo's Country

45 Independent of the War in which Tippoo is now engaged with the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn and the Maratta State he has other troubles to contend with in the Neighbourhood of his Dominions He is involved in Hostilities with the Samorine on the Malabar Coast who is assisted by Coorcala a Mopla Chief Your President and Council at Bombay advised us that they had received a Letter from Mr Firth the Resident at Calicut under Date the 30th March acquainting them that there had been an Engagement at Nangery a place at some Distance in land from Yannore when the Nabob's forces had been defeated with the loss of three Chiefs and 600 private Men every thing then was in the utmost confusion at Calicut as it was reported that the Samorine and Cooracala were determined not to give way A Detachment had marched to reinforce the Nabob's Army and all the way from Chelwa to Calicut the People had deserted the Villages and the Nairs were Masters thereof

46 On the 7th April Mr Firth farther adds that the Samorine and Cooracala still maintained their Ground that their Force was augmenting and that several Skirmishes had happened without much loss on either side that he supposed if the Malabars did not drive the Nabob's forces from that Quarter they must retire inland if the Marattas advance fast and that he believed Cawn Saib was apprehensive this would be the Case.

47 Our latest Advices from Tellicherry are dated the 20th May Your Chief and Factors then informed us that the Rebels had increased to fifteen thousand strong and had defeated the Nabob's Troops in several Skirmishes and that a report prevailed at Calicut that the Governor of that Place intended to evacuate the low Country and retreat to the Gants. Thus they observed would inevitably cause the utmost Distraction in the Nabob's affairs and be attended with the immediate Loss of his Strong Holds to the Southward Should however a Revolution take place in that Quarter they did not apprehend any Consequences therefrom prejudicial to the Company's Interests. They were informed that the Nabob's Troops were in the greatest want of Arms Ammunition and every requisite for Warlike Measures whilst the Rebels were plentifully supplied

48 We are informed by Report that Tippoo was sending a Splendid Embassy to the Porte but we do not know whether it has yet proceeded or what view it was to answer Perhaps there was no other object in it than Compliment to the Sultan and the gratification of some share of personal Vanity

49 Tippoo in the Titles and Independence he has assumed has thrown off all semblance of submission to the Court of Delhi and he accordingly wishes by his attention to the Porte to declare the Grand Seignor the Religious Head of Mahometan Sovereignty *

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Madhav Rao Narayan Peshwa

50 Mr Malet, whom we appointed our Resident at Poona arrived at Bombay on the 8th of January, and dispatched the Letters with which he had been charged to the Peshwa and Nana Furnavese They immediately invited him to proceed to Poona, and the Friendly Stile, [*sic*] in which their Letters were expressed, strongly evinced their approval of his appointment Mr Malet left Bombay on the 12th February, and arrived at Poona on the 3d of March He was met at some Distance from the Capital by Jannola Dada, Governor of Poona, and its Environs, accompanied by his son Behroo Punt, Nana's confidential Minister and severel other Brahmins and Mahrattas of Distinction Nana was not then at Poona, having put himself at the Head of the Army, which had marched to join that of Nizam Ally Khan for the Invasion of Tippoo's Country Mr Malet settled with Behroo Punt the Etiquette of his first Audience with the Peshwa, and the Presents to be made, and on the 7th of March paid his visit and delivered his Credentials The particulars of his reception appear in his Letter of the 8th of that Month The Peshwa, Mhadarao Souae, is represented by Mr Malet to be a Boy of about 11 Years old, "of a Slender Habit, and small of his Age, and his Countenance, tho' neither Handsome nor strongly marked, to be sensible and acute, which corresponds with his Character "

Consn 24th
April

51 Mr Malet's Conferences were held with Behroo Punt, the Person with whom the Business of the Durbar was to be transacted Behroo Punt took an early occasion to endeavor to collect the extent of Mr Malet's Commission and the "Intentions of his Superiors relative to the Important Point then depending on the Peshwa's Application for Assistance, and urged on various pleas drawn from our supposed Resentment of the Injuries received from Tippoo Sultan, and from Political Topics, the propriety and necessity of compliance on our Part He mentioned the offers of the French, drew some merit from the rejection of them, and insisted much on the evil consequences that would follow should they join the opposite Party, in which event, should they, the Mahrattas, be induced to accommodate Matters with Tippoo, his Freedom from Apprehension on this side would be followed with Hostilities to us, his Inclination to which was evinced by his daily Conduct " Mr Malet did not think proper to come to any Explanation with any Person but the Minister himself, and therefore evaded a direct answer to Behroo Punt's Question, observing only "that the Friendship of the Peshwa, and a strict adherence to the present Treaty was one of the primary objects of the present Governor General and Council, that Peace with all our Neighbours was another, that we wished no acquisitions of Territory, but that, should Tippoo, as he hinted, on finding himself free from Apprehension on this side, machinate Evil against us he would find us ready to receive him, and that on all future occasions, as events should render expedient, the English would be found the best Allies in Peace and the most useful friends in War " A Letter was written to Nanna Furnavese, who, as we before observed, was with the Army in respect to Mr Malet's proceeding to it Uncertain Events, and

probably the wish which Nana had to return to Poona himself made it at first doubtful whether the Minister was desirous that he should be at the Trouble of attending him or not but it soon appearing that he wished it and Mr Malet having received a Letter from Nana to this Effect he left Poona on the 20th April to join Nana.

52 Instructions were sent at Mr Malet's request to Meer Mahomed Hussein our Native Agent at the Court of Hydrabad to consider himself under Mr Malet's Directions and to be guided in all Matters by his Orders and Advice.

53 We directed that while Maha Raja Moodajee Boosla should continue in the Maratta Camp Mr Malet would pay him the Attentions due to his Station and to the Friendship which has long subsisted between the Maha Raja and this Government.

54 Mr Malet acquaints us that Monar Montigny the French Resident remains at Poona is little spoken of and either has little to do with the Durbar or is quietly waiting the issue of former negotiations.

55 Behroo Punt in Conversations with Mr Malet previous to his leaving Poona was particularly inquisitive as Mr Malet Consn. 9th May informs us about the Number of your forces in India their Pay etc and about the state of the Portuguese and French both in Europe and India and observed that they had a greater Proportion of Europeans in India than the English. He likewise made particular Enquiry about the Island of Salsette and seem'd solicitous to discover whether an Exchange for any other Districts or any pecuniary Consideration would be agreeable to the Company. He conversed a good deal about the Nabob of Surat's Dispute with the Chouteah and seem'd partial to the latter and at last introduced the Topic of the present State of the Government of the Strong Fort of Gingera.

56 In the Complaint made by the Nabob of Surat of the Conduct of the Maratta Chouteah he charged him with interfering in the Government of the City and contrary to former Custom entertaining a large Body of regular and Irregular Sepoys. He considered him as a troublesome and dangerous Man and guilty of disrespectful and unjustifiable Conduct towards him (the Nabob). He mentioned that in the course of their Disputes the Chouteah withdrew himself from the City but thro' the Mediation of the Chief was returned notwithstanding which the Nabob did not look upon their differences at an End. On the contrary he complained that the Maratta Chouteah was constantly introducing some new and unreasonable Claims.

57 The Complaints were various on both sides and references were made of them to the Government at Bombay who properly determin'd that what had been customary before the late Maratta War should be continued but the representations of those Judges from the Parties did not agree. A Committee was therefore appointed of your Consn. 9th May Servants at Surat to enquire into and procure every Information relative to the Disputes subsisting between the Nabob and Maratta

Chouteah The Committee conceived upon the whole that these Disputes originated from the Nabob's not being punctual in the Payment of his Chout and his not allowing the Chouteah to interfere in the Police of the Town, and they recommended that the Nabob should be desired to be more punctual in future in the Payment of his Chout, and that the President and Council at Bombay should desire the Peshwa to forbid the Chouteah's keeping a larger force in the Town than appears to have been customary, or interfering in any shape with the Nabob's Government

58. Your President and Council at Bombay expressed their Hope to Mr Malet that, in Consequence of the Inquiry which had been set on Foot at Surat, and the Interference of the Chief, Matters were soon likely to be amicably adjusted for the present, but, to prevent Disputes in future, they wished him to procure pointed Orders that the Chouteah should conform himself to the Usages established before the Commencement of the last Maratta War, in doing which he would at all Times meet with their support if the Nabob attempted to infringe any Privileges due to the Chouteah before that Period

59 Mr Malet requested our Instructions concerning his Interference in this Dispute We approved generally of those given to him at Bombay, as above recited, hoping at the same Time that he would have little Difficulty in obtaining Orders from the Peshwa's Government to the Chouteah not to demand more than the Privileges allowed before the late War, and to Conduct himself with Propriety towards the Nabob of Surat, and we observed that, if they should insist on rights to which the Marattas have no just Claim, we could not admit them, nor should we fail to make the strongest remonstrances against the Exercise of them

60 We acquainted you in our Advices of the 24th March that Ballo Jaw, Son of the late Seedy Abdul Rohim Cawn, Governor of Gingerah, on account of some disagreement with his Master, had fled with his Younger Brother to the Fort of Severndroog in the Possession of Hurry Punt Tanteeah, and that Gingerah was then in the Possession of Seedy Jooar, the Minister of the late Abdul Rahim His Minister, we have since learned, was also Abdul Rahim's Son-in-Law Mr Malet, on his arrival at Poona, found Ballo Jaw or Balo Meah and his Younger Brother, at that Place He acquaints us that the Minister Seedy Jooar, had demanded this Younger Brother and promised to put him in the Government of Gingerah, but that the two Brothers, having fled, both went to Bancote, where being refused admission by Mr Farmer they entered the Maratta Districts, and were come to Poona by Order of Government The account of their

Consn 5th April Visit to Bancote appears in Mr Farmer's Letter to the President and Council at Bombay recorded in our Proceedings of the 5th April

61 It was hinted by Behroo Punt, in his Conferences with Mr Malet, that the Peshwa could easily secure Possession of the Fortress and Government of Gingerah, but was withheld by Ignorance of the Sentiments and Intentions of the Company's Servants

Consn 9th May

Mr Malet discovered in the Course of Conversation with Behroo Punt that this was an object much desired by the Durbar but that they were checked in the Pursuit by an Apprehension of its clashing with the Company's views and disturbing the present good understanding which Persuasion Mr Malet endeavored to confirm for altho the Post of Gingerah held as it now is and has been for some Time is productive of no positive advantage to Bombay yet its vicinity to that Place and the Convenience of its Situation as a Port to Poona, and the Deccan would render it an important acquisition to the Marattas either as an actual Increase to their own Strength on the Coast or as an Inlet for the admission of any other European Nation. Mr Malet had several Messages from Balloo Meah the eldest Son of the late Seedy requesting leave to visit him privately but judging such a step incompatible both with the Seedy's Situation and his own desired to be excused.

62 Mr Malet requested Instructions from Bombay for his Conduct in this Business. The President and Council acquainted him in reply that they hoped he would exert his Endeavours to divert the Peshwa from taking any effective steps towards possessing himself of Gingerah under any Pretence whatever as such a Measure might be productive of very pernicious Consequences to the Interests of the Company on the Malabar Coast. However they informed Mr Malet that they were interdicted by this Government from taking any Part in the Siddee Disputes further than friendly Negotiations might extend to whatever might be the Consequences of them from Maratta Interference and that under these Instructions from us they had lately offered their Mediation to Balloo Meah but without Effect. They referred to their Correspondence with Mr Farmer and observed that the claim of the Younger Son appeared to them undoubted under the will of his Father the late Siddee Abdul Karim.

63 Advices which we have received from Mr Malet under Date the 20th June acquaint us that a Proposal had been made to him on the part of the Minister for settling the Divisions of the Siddee Government. This Proposal was that Balloo Meah should be sent to reside at Rajopore with his younger Brother and leave the Management of Affairs till the younger Brother came of Age that Siddee Jauhir should remain in Command of the Fort and that to prevent all opposition from that Quarter a Letter should be sent him both by the Peshwa and Governor of Bombay enjoining his Compliance. Mr Malet observes that altho it is probable that a Settlement of this kind will be the Origin of future intestine Evils in that Government yet it is equally reasonable to conclude that whoever of the Competitors ultimately gain the Ascendancy he will assume the same Independence of the Mahrattas which the Siddee has hitherto maintained, so that there is at least a Probability of removing that Hold which the Maratta Government now has on the Siddee Territories by having possession of the Indisputable Heirs. The proposal has been referred to your Resident and Council at Bombay.

64 On the 1st of April Mr Malet received our Despatches of the

14th February respecting the three Battalions promised to be sent to the Maratta Country for the Security of the Peshwa's Person, or of any of the Forts within his Dominions, but, as was expressly stated, not to be employed offensively against the Mysore Government, or for any purpose but those which we have mentioned. Mr Malet received at the same Time the Governor General's Letters to the Peshwa and Nana Furnavese, and forwarded the Letter for the Peshwa immediately to Nana, keeping that for the Minister to be delivered by himself.

65 He applied to us for specific Instructions relative to the Mode of requisition from Bombay, and the Number, Pay, and Line of Subordination of the Troops to be furnished after entering the Maratta Territories, and he acquainted us that, should the Maratta Government in the mean Time make any application to him, he should endeavor to amuse them until the receipt of our Orders by demanding specific Explanations of our Intentions relative to Tippoo, of the Services expected from our Troops, of the return to be made for these Services on any Misunderstanding occasioned thereby between Tippoo and the Company, of the Mode of Payment and Security for the same and such other Arguments as might occur in the Course of Discussion.

66 Apprehensive, from the readiness he appeared to shew to enter into particular Arrangements with the Maratta Government, that Mr Malet did not see our Intentions exactly in respect to the assistance which had been held forth to that Government in certain Events, we repeated to him the full explanation we had given him of our Sentiments and Wishes in our Letter of the 14th February wherein we "expressed our Hope that the Marattas might not require the Aid of the Bombay Presidency, and that our Profession of Friendship would be sufficient for their Purpose. We trusted to his Management and address to delay the Requisition as long as possible without hazarding the Consequences which our offer of assistance was intended to prevent, and if any Aid were granted, we acquainted him that the Troops were not to be employed offensively against the Mysore Government nor for any Purpose but the Security of the Peshwa's Person or of any of the Forts within his Dominions. Until the Peshwa's Person therefore should be in danger, or any of the Forts within his Dominions, such Aid ought not to be required." We repeated that we never meant to assist the Peshwa in offensive operations against Tippoo, with whom we were at Peace and observed that we could not assist him in such operations unless the French had actually combined with Tippoo against the Marattas.

67 A speedy knowledge of any Intrigues of the French Agents at the Court of Poona being necessary to enable us to determine on the Line of Conduct which it might be proper for us to adopt in the present situation of public Affairs, we cautioned Mr. Malet to be particularly watchful of the Conduct of Mr Montigni, and directed him to communicate to us such Information as he might from Time to Time be able to procure of this Gentleman's Negotiations, as well as of the Influence which he might appear to possess over the Maratta Councils, and the objects which the French Nation might have immediately

Consn 16th May

in view from his Residence at that Durbar

68 Mr Malet had informed us that should it suit the French Politics to join the Maratta Government he conceived it would be almost without reserve as far as related to the operations of their Troops and that if so their Alliance would be more acceptable to the Marattas than ours as he imagined that their present object in wishing the Aid of an European Ally must be the reduction of the Enemy's strong Holds, which object could only be varied by the ascendancy of Tippoo and his Invasion of their Country and in that Predicament only did he imagine our offer of assistance in its present Form would be acceptable He observed however that he should not suffer such an Idea to derogate from its Merit in the Opinion of the Maratta Government but place it in a proper Light as a Proof of the most undoubted Friendship and Regard

69 The next Letter of Importance which we received from Mr Malet was dated the 2d May advising us of one having
 Consn. 23d June been sent to him by Nana Furnavese enclosing another from the Peshwa to Governor Boddam In this letter it is desired that five Battalions should be immediately sent to join the Peshwa's Forces and five to join those of the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn fitly equipped with Warlike Apparatus The Peshwa's Letter was immediately sent to your President and Council to Bombay The following is an Extract of that from Mr Malet which accompanied it

On Perusal of these Papers I don't not you will be struck as I was at the total Omission of the smallest allusion to Terms or conditions in the requisition of the expected Troops but your Surprise will be greatly encreased when I acquaint you that this arises from Nana's having so entirely misunderstood the Governor General's Letter as to have construed the offer unconditional and free from those restrictions with respect to Tippoo prescribed in the Governor General and Council's Letter to me of the 14th of February which restrictions are also clearly laid down in the English Copy furnished me of the Letter from the Governor General to the Peshwa and his Minister Agreeable to this misconstruction you will observe that the Minister's requisition to you is couched in plain Terms that the English forces may be immediately dispatched to join the Allied Army which is at this Moment acting in the Country of Tippoo Sultan

70 Behroo Punt on learning the limited Terms in which the offer of assistance was to be understood appeared extremely surprized and was as desirous of protracting Mr Malet's Journey as he had before been urgent to hasten it Mr Malet desired him to undeceive Nana and explain to him in the least disagreeable Manner the Terms in which the proffered Aid was to be granted

71 Mr Malet's Letter to the Govr General of the 3d May recorded on our Proceedings of the 23d June recites at large what
 Consn. 23d June passed between him and Behroo Punt on this Occasion It appearing that an Important Part of the Governor General's Letter to the Peshwa, in respect to the Service on which your Troops were to be

employed would bear a double Meaning, we called upon the Persian Translator to explain to us how this arose His Letter in reply is sent a Number in the Packet

72 Your President and Council at Bombay having received our Instructions of the 14th February took an early occasion to apprise us that, should the requisition be made by the Poona Government, they should be under the necessity of beginning to raise a like Number of Battalions of Sepoys as they held in readiness to be detached to the Assistance of the Marattas, having but four Battalions in Garrison at Bombay, the Marine Battalion being employed on board their Cruizers, and there remaining three Battalions at Surat, Salsette and Tellicherry We immediately cautioned them not to raise any Levies of Troops upon any account under a supposition that they might be obliged to assist the Maratta State with a part of their present Force We acquainted them that it was not without the greatest exertions that we had it in our own Power to send them the necessary supplies to keep up their Military Establishment, and that, altho'

21st Sept. 1785 your Hon'ble Court ordered in your General letter that it should be increased to the strength mentioned in a Statement which we transmitted to them, we did not conceive that they would find it possible to carry your Instructions on this Subject into execution, unless you had provided funds, which were unknown to us, to enable them to defray the additional expence that would be incurred by an obedience to your Commands

73 On the 19th of May Mr. Malet arrived at the Maratta Camp near Buddamma, and had a Public Meeting with Nana Furnavese in which that Minister studies by every attention to shew his respect to the Company On the 21st Mr Malet received Instructions from the President and Council at Bombay to acquaint the Peshwa and Nana that, in consequence of their requisition, and the orders received from the Governor General and Council, they were ready to assist the Maratta State with three Battalions of Sepoys properly equipped, under the Stipulation that they should not be employed to act offensively against the Mysore Government, or for any purpose but the Security of the Peshwa's Person, or of any of the Forts within his own Dominions "Should the Peshwa and his Ministers accept the proffered Aid on the Terms prescribed, the President and Council would then transmit to Mr Malet Estimates of the Charges of the Detachment, that he might make the necessary preparative Arrangement for the Pay of the Troops for the ultimate approval of the Governor General and Council "

74 About the Time of Mr. Malet's Receipt of this Letter from Bombay the Maratta forces had been successful in the Conquest of Buddamma, and as Nana was of course much engaged in a variety of Matters which required his attention in Consequence of this Capture, Mr Malet had not an Opportunity of communicating personally to him the Instructions he had received from Bombay, he therefore informed Behloo Punt of them, and desired him to make them known to the Minister

75 The Ceremonial of Nana's first Visit to Mr Malet at which the latter delivered his Dispatches and Presents being over Consn 24th July Mr Malet proceeded to the Minister's with whom he found Gunnes Bhutt and Behroo Punt who were soon after joined by Hurry Punt and Appa Bulwant After ordering all Servants away Nana commenced his Conversation with a recapitulation of the Governor General's first Letter that Mr Malet's Mission was especially and immediately to re-establish and encrease the ancient Friendship which was also his (Nana's) ardent Wish He next entered on the subject of the Governor General's Letter in which are mentioned the Orders to the Government of Bombay to furnish a Body of Troops on the Peshwa's Application and asked if Mr Malet had not received Letters to the same Purpose and whether they agreed in substance with his Observing his Intention Mr Malet replied that though he could perceive no Difference yet he learnt his Construction involved a Difference Nana said that could not be, Mr Malet fully explained the cause of restricting the operations of our Auxiliary Troops upon the Principle of a due attention to the Faith of Treaties Nana replied that his present object in wishing the Junction of our Troops was no violation of this Principle nor did it at all entrench on the Terms of the Governor General's offer since the present object the Reduction of Qaitore and Nurgood would be only expelling the Enemy from their own Country those Places having been taken from them by Tippoo That as to the sense of the offer in any other Point of view he could fix none as at present they had no Enemy further advanced into their Territories and of what service would our Troops be to the Peshwa encamped at a Distance from the scene of action in the Center of his Dominions. Nana begged particularly to know what Mr Malet understood by the Term Frontier and whether if with the assistance of our Troops the Marattas should beat the Enemy repeatedly on the Frontier We were to advance or wait there till he recovered That it had been settled by Mr Johnson to send a Body of Troops to join them against and punish Tippoo that the Peshwa had written about that Body of Troops through the Nazim, [Nizam] but had received no answer That though that application was made through that Quarter yet their Treaty and Friendship through Sindia was what they placed their whole Trust in All this, to which Mr Malet made such Answers as occurred and particularly expressed his surprize at their having received no Answer to their letter through the Nizam Copy of which Mr Malet received from Mr Colobrooke on the 12th of March leading to nothing Conclusive Mr Malet begged to know the Minister's Decision on the offer of Aid in its present State as directed by the Governor General and Council and agreed to by the Presidency of Bombay They immediately desired to know if it would march on their application and Mr Malet's writing Mr Malet replied that another reference to Bengal would be necessary on the Subject of Pay &c. They seemed a good deal struck at this and referring to Mr Malet's Credentials after much Conversation with each other observed that Mr Malet's Letter implied a much greater

Latitude of Negotiation, but that if even a reference was necessary, merely on the Pay of a Body of Forces offered, it would be but right also to gain an explicit Answer on the Doubtful Word of the Letter, and on the Sense in which the Word Frontier was to be understood, for Instance, while they were recovering their own, whether it would be looked on by us as Tippoo's. In the Course of this Conversation Mr Malet could perceive a Tendency to doubt our Sincerity, and Nana in particular mentioned the Treaty of Tella-gaum as a Proof that our Professions were not always to be relied on To combat the Persuasions they seemed to have entertained, Mr Malet explained, in the fullest manner, the Merit of the Governor General's Offer, and the necessary Distinction between offensive and Defensive Alliances, that by urging us to the former they wanted to precipitate us into a real Breach of that good Faith and Sincerity which they now imputed to us without any foundation Mr Malet painted in as strong Colours as possible the great Influence that even a Junction of the Company's Troops on the latter Footing must have on their Affairs That our late Treaties with Tippoo and them were of the same Nature, but that the Governor General and Council's Partiality to their Cause was strongly and pointedly shewn in the decided part taken of joining them They then asked whether the Treaty with Tippoo was voluntary, and whether he had committed no Acts in Breach of it Mr Malet replied that both the Causes and the observance of the Treaty were best known to his Superiors, and, pointing out to them that this was wandering from the Point in Question, recalled their Attention to the Specific offer as contained in the Governor General's Letter They studiously evaded giving him a clear Answer on this Head, and Nana desired Mr Malet to procure Answers from Bengal on what he called the doubtful Points of the Letter, and on the Sense in which the Term "Frontier" was to be understood, and that he also would write to the Governor General to the same purpose and send his Letters to be forwarded by Mr Malet " These Letters were written and are recorded in our Proceedings of the 24th July.

76 We have been thus particular in laying before you all that has occurred in respect to the Aid held forth to the Peshwa for the Defence of his Person and Dominions, because the Subject may possibly be of eventual Importance, and we wish you to be convinced that we have not committed you in an unconditional Engagement, but agreed merely to take Part in a certain Case which is most unlikely to happen, while at the same Time the mere Rumours of our Interference might operate to the Credit and Advantage of the Maratta State, without injuring our relation to Tippoo Saib, who has no reason afforded him to Complain of our Breach of Treaty, tho' he must be sensible of his own

77 After considering the whole of this Subject maturely, and attending to the steps we have taken to open a correspondence with Tippoo, and if you will carry in your minds that the real object of the Marattas, the Nizam, and Tippoo may be on all sides to make us first a Party in the Dispute and to Force the French to engage in it you will have reason to applaud the line we have followed Had we made no Answer to

the Request of the Marattas nor any advances in consequence there was great danger of their inviting the French as Principals against Tippoo. On the other hand Tippoo has seen that we are not bent on his Destruction and he has changed his Conduct towards the French according to Events. Time is at all Events gained and a general Request for us to be mediators in the Dispute is the point to be aimed at for our Advantage.

78 Mr Malet's Itineraries which has been laid before the Board by the Governor General are recorded in our Proceedings Consn 24th July noted in the Margin

79 Mr Malet having requested our Permission to retain Nooral Dien Hussein Khan as his Vakeel with a Stipend of 400 Rupees Per Mensem, we gave our Consent to it. Nooral Dien Hussein Khan had been before employed by Governor Boddam as his Agent at Poona and is represented to us as a Man of most respectable Character and as having from long Practice acquired such a knowledge of the Affairs of the Poona Durbar and of the Interests of the Princes of Deekan and Hindostan that your Resident might expect much useful and necessary Information from him.

80 The Minister Nana Furnavese having determined to return to Poona Mr Malet left the Maratta Camp for the same Purpose on the 25th May and arrived at Poona on the 6th of June.

81 Soon after he came into Town Monar Montigni had a Conference with Nana in which he took great pains to interrupt the progress of that Confidence which Nana has for some Time past taken every Opportunity of professing in the English. He assured him that the Peace between the French and English was a Peace of convenience which would be used by the former to strengthen itself for another War that in the Prosecution of this Plan a League was already concluded with the Dutch the most powerful European Nation in the East next to the English that the Dutch had relinquished Tranquebar (Mr Malet supposes Trincomalee) as a return for the Protection of the French that a large French Armament was already on its way to India. He advised Nana strongly against any Dependence on the English and even took upon himself to predict that he would be disappointed in any Hopes he might have formed of their assistance. This Frenchman has also made new overtures to Zein ul Ibadien Cawn and invited him to return to his ancient Dependence on his Nation with assurances that in the End his fidelity will be amply rewarded.

82 We shall now proceed to acquaint your Honble Court with the Movements of the Allied Army and of the Forces of the Nabob Tippoo Sultan as far as we have been able to form a Judgment of them from the Informations before us.

83 The Allied Army with the Nazim and Nana Furnavese crossed the Kistna on the 23d March at Cupput Sungum about 110 Cos from Poona. On the 25th of April the Nazim took his Leave of Nana and marched towards Hyderabad leaving fifteen thousand Horse and 20,000 Foot under the Command of Johawur Jung and Teng Jung. The real reasons of his Highness's Departure are not ascertained. At this Time the

plundering Parties of the Allied Army had overrun large Tracts of Country, and had established their Tannas in many of the Districts that formerly belonged to the Marattas, but no place of strength had been subdued. The Allied Forces however were then before Buddamma. On the 20th of May the Town of Buddamma was carried by general assault. The loss was great on both sides, the Marattas reckoned theirs at 1600 Men. Soon after they had got entire Possession of the Town, and a small Citadel within it, which also made resistance. Overtures of Capitulation were made by the Kiladar for the Forts. His proposals were rejected and Preparations were made for renewing the attack which had the desired Effect, and the next day the Forts were surrendered at the Discretion of Nana with the single assurance of personal security, and granting their swords to five of the principal officers. The Killahdar's name was Husson Ally Cawn.

84 The following is the Description which Mr Malet has given us of Buddamma

"Buddamma is not large but fills the Hollow between two Hills. In its Front, is an extensive fine Plain in its rear very rugged hilly ground on the right and the left are high rocky hills on which stand two strong Forts effectually commanding the Town, the Interval between being scarcely a Musket shot over. The Town is connected with these two Forts both in Front and rear by strong Works. Immediately within the Works in the rear is a very fine Tank, from whence the Garrisons of the Forts above drew their principal supplies of Water, the deprival of which is said to be the Cause of their immediate surrender. The Garrison of the Town and Forts is said to have consisted of about 700 Regulars, 1,200 Matchlocks, Mercenaries and a number of Matchlocks from the Environs, in all near 3,000 Men. Upwards of 400 of these are said to have fallen in the Storm and from 1,500 to 2,000 of the Marattas."

85 The Marattas had acquired considerable Credit by their Success at Buddamma, and were encouraged by it of course to proceed with some confidence in their Military Operations, but Nana was desirous to return to Poona, and there was some Difficulty in settling the Continuance of the great Chieftains with the Army, Vizt Moodajee Boosla, Purseram Bow, Harry Punt Tanteea and Holcar etc to the Southward of the Kistna. Nana, however, at length adjusted this and arranged Matters in such manner as to preserve at least the appearance of Satisfaction. It appeared from the best Intelligence that could be collected that the Plan of operations for the Allied Army was that Hurry Punt Furkeah, Perseram Bhow, Badgee Punt Eana, Tookajee Holker, and all the other Peshwa Chiefs and Jageerdars also that Moodajee Boosla with his own Troops, and Johowur Jung with Nizam Ally Khan's, should immediately march against Gujundur Ghur, a Fort inferior strength to Buddamma, and about 10 Coss distant from it. After its Reduction the Army was to march and Canton in the Neighbourhood of Durwar, about 16 Coss from Buddamma, being the largest and strongest Fortress that Tippoo possesses between the Kistna and Tong Budra. But, with respect to Moodajee, it was conjectured that he would proceed to Nagpore,

and leave his Son Chimnaje in Command of his Troops Moodajee did soon leave the Army his Troops remaining under the Command of his Son On the 19th of June the Fort of Gujundur Ghur surrendered to Harry Punt Furkeah When this News arrived at Poona it was reported that Brohar Sahib one of Tippoo Sultan's Commanders after succeeding at the Head of about 10 000 Men in throwing supplies of Men Provisions &c into Darwar and Nulgoond had been attacked by Holkar and Gunnes Punt and with some loss and Difficulty made his retreat to the South Jungles

86 Much had been said of Tippoo's Inactivity but the Success which has lately attended his Arms at Adoni has shewn the reverse and may possibly induce the Maratta Chiefs to alter their Plans

87 While the Allied Army was engaged in the Siege of Buddamma Tippoo moved his Troops towards Adoni and laid Siege to it The Petta was soon taken. The next object was the reduction of the Fort The loss of the Petta much alarmed the Nizam and many Arzees had come from Mohubut Jung the Kelladar desiring assistance His Highness therefore sent Advice to the Allied Army of the Situation of Adoni and pressed them to move towards it and he Dispatched a Number of Troops from Hyderabad with his Minister Mosheer ul Moolk At this Time Tippoo had made several attempts to take the Forts by Storm but had been constantly repulsed It was probably owing to the approach of the Allied Army which had reached Raychore and to that of the Nizam's Ally Khawn that Tippoo raised the Siege of Adoni On the arrival of the Nizam's Troops there the Nizam's Minister artfully prevailed upon Mohubut Jung under various Pleas and at length under the Pretext of orders from the Nizam to give up the Command of the Fort to Meer Jumla and proceed with him to Hyderabad promising to leave 15 000 Infantry belonging to the Nizam to Garrison the Place No sooner were Mohubut Jung and his Troops Family and Effects removed from Adoni than Tippoo imagining that the Place had been evacuated or that the new Garrison would not make the same Defence as that made by the Garrison under Mohubut Jung moved towards the Fort The Instant the Army arrived close to the Fort than Meer Jumla ordered all the Nizam's Troops to quit it by the West Face Tippoo marched his Army into the Fort at the South Face and took Possession of it without firing a shot

88 The following Description has been given to us of Adoni

Adoni is situated upon three Mountains which are united It has a range of irregular Fortifications piled one over the other To maintain it requires a Garrison of 30 000 Men The Fortifications upon the Mountains are often weak especially when they are guarded by Men not possessing Military knowledge To the South of Adoni is a large Plain To the North there are Mountains obnoxious from the nearness to the East There are other Mountains which leave only a space of 80 Toises between them and the Fort That Space is occupied by a Tank one End of which joins to the Fort and the other to the Mountains To the West there are also Mountains, and this part is the weakest The first assault was made

on the East and South Parts, the last on the West. That Part, altho' the most elevated, is the weakest on account of a Breach which is there and sufficiently practicable. Moreover the Garrison was not numerous enough to defend all the Parts'

89 The last Letter which we have rec'd from Mr Malet mentions some Information delivered to him by a Man who had come to him at Poona, having been a Jemmadar in one of the Bombay Battalions and taken Prisoner with General Mathews. Parts of this Information being of Importance, and having been said to have been much appearance of Truth in the relation of it, we think it proper to transmit it to you. It is as follows

"He with five Commandants of Battalions who are well known, 25 Subedars, 50 Jemmadars and a few Havildars and Sepoys all of the Bombay Establishment were sent in Chains to Maisweer, a strong Fort near Seringapatam. At the Expiration of seven months some of them were enlarged and employed in the Nabob's Service. In the course of his service He had accompanied Tippoo Sultan on his Expedition against the Coorga Malabars about Eight Months ago, and, after the reduction of that Country, attended him back to Seringapatam, soon after which the Preparations for the present Warfare commenced. Tippoo in Person began his march from his Capital about three Months ago, and reaching Bangalore by very short marches halted there about twenty Days. His Brother Kerim accompanied him to this Place, but he has not seen him since. Tippoo's Progress from Bangalore by the way of Guttu and Bellarree to Adoni, He relates, was also very slow. Mr Malet supposes designedly to collect his Troops, which joined him from all Parts during the March, and probably to give Time for the Rains to swell the Tong Budra and prevent Relief. The Army arrived before Adoni about 40 days ago, plundered the Town the ensuing day, and immediately raised five Battaries against the Fort, which, he represents, is extremely strong. About Eight days after the Batteries were opened, during which Time Rumours were circulated of the Success of the Mahrattas against Buddamma &ca, A General Assault was ordered, though no Breach was made. A General Escalade was accordingly attempted, which failed with a Loss of 4 or 5000 Men according to the Reports of the Army. Soon after this certain news was received of the Fall of Buddamma, and that the Maratta Army was advancing to the Tong Budra, on which the Troops were ordered to provide themselves with eight days Provisions, and keep that stock entire by them. Soon after this the Informant took an Opportunity of making his Escape with another Bombay Jemmadar, whom he left on the road. On his arrival at Rachore Nizam Ally Khawn's Troops were there in great Force, and the Mahrattas were daily expected to join them. He had been twenty days from the Army to Poona. This Person says positively that Tippoo Commands the Army in Person before Adoni, though this Government either is or pretends to be ignorant of these Circumstances. That it is composed of near 60,000 regulars, 25,000 Horse, and 40,000 Irregular Foot with Matchlocks, That his Train of Artillery is very numerous, and exceedingly well supplied with

Bullocks and Elopants That exclusive of his Park, there are four Field Pieces attached to each Force a Term given to an Establishment of four Battallions That he has about fifteen Battallions of Cheylas or Slaves, composed of Captives, Fugitives and Renegadoes of all Sects, who have voluntarily embraced or by Compulsion been forced into Mahometism that amongst these are a great many English, who are furnished with Wives by the Sircar and Masters to instruct them in the Language and Tenets of their new Faith to which the most rigid observance is exacted. The Cheyles are regularly quartered in Barracks and have their daily Food from the Sircar This Institution has a near resemblance to that of the Janizaries, that the excessive restraint and Jealousy of Tippoo's Service have disgusted his whole Army and that large numbers are constantly deserting; that Tippoo affects the Titles and Insignia of Royalty and confers the Title of Nabob on some of his principal Chiefs: that the Month by which he regulates the Pay of his Army is composed of forty five Days this is called the Royal or Sultanees Month which Title is also given to the Coas that he has established in his Country That Monsieur Lally was with the Army but that his Corps did not consist of 1000 Men of which there were not above 50 Europeans that the Cavalry of the Army were in general bad and that the Infantry neither in Point of Discipline or affection deserve much Confidence'

90 Some Intelligence which we received from Hydrabad before the Sonbah's return there mentions that a French Gentleman a Monsieur Godar had arrived with the Nizam with Letters from Monsr Le Vicompte de Souillac the French Governor General and from Monsr de Cossigny Governor of Pondicherry that the Nizam had received him and his Letters with indifference and that the Minister had desired the French Gentleman to return to Hydrabad and that after the Soubah's arrival there he would obtain Answers.

*91 Lieutenant Anderson, whose Reasons for leaving Sindia's Camp were stated to you in our letter of the 24th March arrived at Agra on the 15th of that Month and was received with particular Marks of attention by the Governor of the Town who came out to a considerable distance to meet him and had attended him to his place of residence Mr Anderson then wrote a few Lines to Scindia informing him of his arrival and of the Civilities that had been shewn him and expressed his Hope of having it soon in his Power to thank him in Person. The Answer to this Letter was conceived in the most friendly Terms.

*92 It seems that Mr Anderson's departure from Camp had made a greater impression upon Mahajee Sindia than was supposed and that he at first attributed it to a deeper cause than the real one he was apprehensive that it might be the prelude of an intended rupture with him and therefore shewed a disposition to desist from his Plan of a total Subjection of the Jypore Country and to come to a composition with the Raja About the period of Mr Anderson's arrival at Agra he received

Same as paragraph 11 of Letter dated 30 June 1786.

Intelligence of the flight of Himut Bahauder from Muttrah to the Border of the Vizier's Country, an event which, he observed, must certainly have happened sooner or later, but he feared would be attributed to his own disagreement with Sindia. All that we could do was to prove in the most unequivocal manner, by our subsequent conduct that we had not countenanced such a Step. Mr. Anderson having received a Letter from Himut Behauder very properly sent it unopened to Sindia, and confined the Bearer of it until he should hear from him. The Governor General was soon advised by Colonel Harper that Himut Behauder had suddenly crossed the Jumna with intention of taking refuge with the Vizier, near whose frontier he was arrived, and who had received an Arzee from him for leave to present himself at Lucnow, and that Himut Behauder was followed by a considerable Body of Troops from the Maratta Service, who had however strict Orders not to pursue him beyond the line of the Vizier's Frontier, or to take any Hostile Measures, if he should have accomplished his retreat beyond the Maratta Districts. His Brother Omrow Gheer, Colonel Harper mentioned, had defeated the Maratta Detachment which had entered his Jagheer, but, as it was not possible he could maintain himself against the Force that would be sent against him, he intended crossing the Ganges to take refuge in Rohilcund. The Vizier had with Colonel Harper's Advice, given Orders that Himut Behauder should not advance towards Lucnow, and Instructions were dispatched to the Vizier's Posts on the Gauts of the Ganges not to suffer Omrow Gheer to pass the River, lest it should draw on Hostilities with the Marattas. Instructions were soon sent by our authority to Colonel Harper to communicate our Wish to the Nabob, that no Protection should be afforded either to Himut Behauder or his Brother. It was afterwards wished by Bow Buckshy that Himut Behauder should be delivered up to Sindia, but this Mr. Anderson very properly declared was unreasonable and could not be complied with. It was enough to promise that Himut Behauder would never meet with any Encouragement directly or indirectly from us, or the Vizier. Bow Buckshy next observed that the King expected we would at least restore the Guns he had carried away belonging to the King's Park. These were said to be about 29 Pieces of Cannon. Mr. Anderson agreed to write on the subject to Colonel Harper.

*93 The first Impression which Sindia had received upon Mr. Anderson's Departure from his Camp, that it foreboded an intended rupture with him on the part of the English, being removed, and his mind relieved on this subject, he soon determined on the Prosecution of his Views against Jeypore. We have heard that a Settlement was concluded with the Raja, but that neither Party would take any steps in the Performance of it from their Mutual Distrust of each other, and it really appeared for some Time uncertain whether Sindia would persevere in his original Intention of attempting a complete Conquest of the Jeypore Dominions, or be satisfied with a Tribute and return before the rains to

* Same as paragraph 12 of letter dated 30 June 1786.

Deig Under these doubts and apprehending that such an Accession of Power and Dominion as Sindia would obtain by the acquisition of Jeypore might be eventually hurtful to your Interests Regarding also with a Jealous Eye the gradual Progress which his Arms had made from the reduction of Gaulier and Ghode to the Establishment of his Influence in Bundelcund so near Benaris and nt Alegur which is in the Neighbourhood of the Vizier's Frontier the Governor General expressed his Sentiments fully on these Subjects to Mr Anderson whose Answer is so complete in its recital of your present Connection with Sindia, his Opinion of Sindia's Views and of the safest and most effectual means of checking them that we transmit a Copy of it a number in this Dispatch. The Raja of Jeypore had himself appealed to us for Protection and his applications had been supported with earnestness by the Shahzada. Considering the subject maturely we left it to the Governor General to take such measures with respect to Sindia's attempts upon the Jeypore Country, as ought to be satisfactory to the Raja, at the same Time they should not involve us in trouble with Mahajee Sindia.

04 A. You are informed of the Discretion which we reposed in Mr Anderson to return or not to Sindia's Camp as circumstances might appear to him to render proper His resolution was soon taken to declare his Determination to return provided he was previously assured of the actual dismissal of the People from Sindia's Camp, whose Intrigues had been the Cause of his quitting it and that a proper attention was shown to him in the Deputation of one of Sindia's Chiefs. For this purpose he wrote to Sindia generally on the Subject referring him to Bow Buckshey for a full knowledge of his Wishes and Intentions. He soon found that Sindia had anticipated the first and principal Point he had required by the Actual dismissal of the People from his Camp of which your Resident received certain Information immediately after the Dispatch of his Letters. On the receipt of these Letters Sindia gave Orders to Bhow Buckshey to go to Mr Anderson at Agra. He did so, and having arrived there on the 29th of May waited on Mr Anderson immediately. Their Subsequent Conversations were full on the Occasion of your Resident's leaving Sindia and Bhow Buckshey assured him that Sindia and himself were perfectly convinced of the Propriety of his Conduct. In the course of Conversation Bhow Buckshey mentioned that according to the last Advice he had received from Camp the Negotiation with the Raja of Jeypore was in the most favorable Train and that Sindia being more perfectly at Ease on this score was preparing to return with his Army to Canton during the Rains whilst the King was to proceed to Delhi. Bhow Buckshey also acquainted Mr Anderson that Appa Candey Row had at length come to a Settlement with Banny Huzzoory and would now soon return from the Province of Bundelcund with his Troops.

04 B. We have not had an Opportunity of mentioning until now and even now perhaps it is not perfectly in place that some Conjectures

have been formed in the Maratta Country of views entertained by Mahajee Sindia to get Ragoba's Young son into his Hands If this Consn 23d June be true the Design is extensive, and must increase the Jealousies of the other Maratta Chieftains.

95 On the 12th of June your Resident with Sindia set out from Agra with Bhow Bucksly to rejoin the Army On the 22d he reached Deig where the Army had arrived two days before. Cons 24th July Mahajee Sindia met him at the Distance of a Coss from the Camp, from whence they proceeded together to the King's Durbar "His Majesty, after some expressions of displeasure at Mr Anderson's having quitted the Camp, without his leave, mixed, however, with Declarations of his Satisfaction at Mr Anderson's return, acquainted him that he was to proceed on the ensuing Day to Delhy, from whence he proposed returning to Camp at the Commencement of the fair Season, and he desired that Mr Anderson would in the mean Time remain with his Minister Madajee Sindia He then gave Mr Anderson his Leave, after conferring upon him the Customary dress. Madajee Sindia had previously hinted to Mr Anderson, through Bhow Bucksly, his Intention of paying him the first visit after his arrival in Camp, but being under the necessity on the 23d of attending his Majesty on his Departure, and some indispensable Business intervening on the 24th he was prevented from the performance of it until the 25th when he came attended by all his principal Chiefs" His visit was returned by Mr Anderson upon the Army's arrival at Muttia, and thus the Ceremonies ended. It was intended that the Army should canton at Muttia during the Rains

96 "Among the various difficulties which Sindia has to encounter there is none which he seems to feel more sensibly than the small revenue he derives from these Provinces and, on this account, he has long anxiously wished to resume the Jagheers from the Mogul Chiefs, a measure which, it is thought he means certainly to carry into Execution, or at least to attempt it during the Rains His Plan, it is said, is to order them all to proceed and join the Army of the Peshwa, and, on the Ground of their Refusal, which he is aware must be the inevitable Consequence to resume their Jagheers The whole of their Amount on a large calculation is supposed to be about 60 Lacs of Rupees, but from the great depopulation, which has lately taken place in the Country, they are in Possession of almost the only productive parts of it It is no wonder therefore that Sindia should shew so strong a desire of stripping them of these possessions tho' Mr Anderson does not think it likely that he will be completely successful, and it is probable that he will be obliged to content himself with the resumption of the inferior ones "

97 We transmit to you Numbers in the Packet Copies of Letters which the Governor General has received from Lieutt Anderson, bearing Date the 25th July and 6th August and beg leave to refer to them as clearly descriptive of Sindia's present Situation and as containing Matters of much Consequence with respect to that Chief

98. Notwithstanding the Resolution which we passed in the course

of last year not to grant Exemptions of Gnyā Duties to the Marattas going on Pilgrimage to that Place we have found ourselves so pressed by the requests of Mahajee Sindia and other Maratta Chiefs that we have been obliged, in some Cases to deviate from it and to allow the Exemptions. Our Proceedings of the 23d June contain a Letter from Mr Thomas Law Collector at Gnyā on this subject and a Statement of Exemptions granted at Gnyā to Pilgrims for the last 14 years

99 Your Resident with Mahajee Sindia having preferred an Application to the Governor General for the appointment of an Assistant we have nominated Ensign James Macpherson to this Office

100 In your General Letter of the 21st Sept 1785 Paragraph 28th Your Hon ble Court thought it proper to apprise us that you had no Wish in the present distracted state of the Mogul Empire that the Young Prince should be induced to withdraw himself from under your Protection. You could give no Encouragement to any Idea of engaging in Warlike Enterprises for the purpose of re-establishing the Ancient Dignity of the Mogul Empire but altho it should be attended with some small Expence to render the Shahzada's residence comfortable within your or the Vizier's Territories you thought that expence fully compensated by the Advantages of the Shahzada being safe and under your Protection

101 Many have been the Intrigues, and various have been the Inducements held out to the Shahzada to quit the Protection of the Company and Nabob Vizier but hitherto they have been resisted. We know not however how much longer the Prince may be induced to remain in his present Situation. Those who are most interested in his removal from it do of course make him Promises and hold out allurements which may captivate a Young Mind while the English and the Vizier who are interested in his Continuance under their Protection are careful not to make him assurances which they are not sure of being able to fulfill. For some Months past his Royal Highness has repeatedly expressed his very anxious Wish to visit the Presidency and upon his being resisted his Royal Highness has declared an Intention possibly by way of Menace of withdrawing from Lucnow The Governor General is using his best Endeavors to prevail on him to remain at that Place but he is by no means certain of success and, altho his Royal Highness should not come to the Presidency it is by no means impossible that we may find it expedient to permit him to go to Benaris or to any of the upper Parts of the Company's Provinces.

102 The Corps of Grenadiers which was formerly commanded by Lieutenant Polhill and afterwards transferred to the Vizier's Service again Manifested a spirit of Mutiny in the course of last Month on which occasion Lieutenant Colonel Harper again offered the Services of the Battalion at the Lucnow Station and his own Endeavors to bring them to a Sense of Duty and he urged strongly to the Nabob (according to the Governor General's Wishes and those of the Commander in Chief expressed in former Letters) the propriety of discharging from his Service a Corps that

had been uniformly disobedient The Nabob complied, the Arrears of Pay were adjusted, and the Corps was discharged

103 You were advised in our General Letter of the 28th February Per Deptford Paragraph 61, that the former Mutiny which had taken place in this Corps then attached to the Person of the Prince Mirza Jewan Bukht having rendered it advisable that an European Officer should be placed about his Highness's Person, we had resolved that Captain Granby Sloper should be permitted to proceed to Lucnow to be stationed about the Shahzada in such Situation and Command as the Vizier might think proper to give him, and, as the Peace of Lucnow and the Security of the Company's Servants there with the Company's Accounts and Cash were much exposed during the late Disturbances, Captain Macleod had been permitted to reassume the Command of the Battalion which he formerly Commanded at Lucnow, and from which he was never regularly removed by this Government We were informed by Col Harper under Date the 29th April that his Excellency the Vizier, in conformity to our Wishes, had appointed Captain Macleod to reassume the Command of the Corps he formerly held at Lucnow, and Captain Sloper to that which was commanded by Lieutenant Polhill.

104 We have the Honor to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for the Perusal of a Letter addressed to us by the Accountant General under Date the 25th October 1785 in which he Consn 5th April states Omissions at Lucnow in not debiting the Vizier for the Monthly allowances agreed in May 1785 to be paid by his Excellency to the Company's Servants and others at that Station, which were directed to be considered as Allowances from the Company and in lieu of all others, to be paid by the Accountant at Lucnow and charged in the Public Accounts to the Nabob's Debit The same Letter contains also some Questions relative to the Charges to be placed to the Nabob's Account, and a Statement of the Particulars of the Balance due from his Excellency at the End of the Fussullee Year 1192 or 18th September 1785 Our Resolutions upon these References and the Answers to them appear in our Proceedings of the 5th April

105 On the 29th of March last a Letter was addressed to us by Mr John Bristow stating that in the Month of June 1783, when he was Resident at the Court of the Nabob Vizier, he contracted a Loan of Seventeen Lacs Forty thousand Lucnow Sicca Hawley Rupees with the House of Gopaul Doss³ in behalf of the Company and that the Board approved of the Loan and of the Conditions on which it was contracted, that the Stipulations in the Bond granted to Gopaul Doss entitled him, after a Provision might be made for the Company's necessary Disbursements in Owde, to all Surplus receipts from the Nabob Vizier until the whole of his Debt should be liquidated, that this Agreement so long as Mr Bristow continued Resident, was strictly adhered to, but not afterwards, and that in May 1785, from the Causes set forth by Mr Bristow, the Amount of the Debt to Gopaul Doss with Interest on the Balance had accumulated to about

Eighteen Lacs that Gopaul Doss had never and above this rendered considerable Aids to the Administration at Bombay on every emergency that occurred and that the Company on these several Accounts became indebted to him in all about three and twenty Lacs of Rupees Mr Bristow further stated that, on a Representation made to us in behalf of Gopaul Doss we engaged on the 12th of May 1785 to give him expected Bills of Exchange from Lucnow for Ten Lacs of Rupees on account the Kist of Bhadun or September 1785 and an Assignment on the Revenues of Benares for about Six Lacs more that Bills for the Ten Lacs were accordingly when they arrived delivered to Munwar Doss at Calcutta the Son and Agent of Gopaul Doss that these became due on the 6th of January 1786 but that as no part had yet been paid and it was well known that the House on which they were drawn Lalla Butcherauze had failed in the Performance of its Engagements both with Government and Individuals Gopaul Doss solicited that we would receive back the Bills and grant him Payment from the Treasury at Calcutta

106 Mr Bristow acquainted us that he was prompted to prefer this request in behalf of Gopaul Doss from its being impossible that Gopaul Doss could repose the least Confidence in any Engagement of Lalla Butcherauze. He also represented that means had been taken to intimidate Gopaul Doss into a Transfer of his Claim on the Company to the Account of a private Individual Almas Ally Cawn.

107 Mr Bristow trusted that the Facts which he had brought forward in his Letter would carry conviction that Gopal Doss was justified in his Representations that the long Time for which the Banker had remained out of the large Sums owing to him together with Private Outstanding Balances incurred to a very considerable amount in the Course of his extensive Transactions none of which he could realize at the present juncture had exposed him to the utmost distress and it was by great Exertions of his Credit and occasionally submitting to heavy Losses, that the House had hitherto been preserved from Bankruptcy

108 Mr Bristow concluded by observing that as a large Balance would be then shortly applicable in the Discharge of Paper Dated before the 25th of September 1785 and as Gopaul Doss's Claim was prior to that Date he hoped that we would take into Consideration the Banker's request to be paid from our Treasury

109 A Letter addressed to us by the Accountant General on the subject of Mr Bristow's representation relative to Gopaul Doss is recorded in our Proceedings of the 20th March.

110 Being apprehensive that a Compliance with Mr Bristow's request for immediate Payment of the Bills which were endorsed to us by Gopaul Doss payable by Butcherauze Doss, would disturb the Confidence of our other Creditors we could not agree to appropriate the expected Balance of the Treasury in the Discharge of any other Demands than those which the Order of the General Register prescribed but as we thought that Gopaul Doss was entitled to look to us for Payment we resolved that

he should be offered either Certificates bearing Interest from the 6th January 1786 at 8th Per Cent Per Annum payable in the Orders of the register of that Dacca, or that Tunkas should be granted to him upon the Lucnow Treasury payable out of the first Fund - it might not be wanted for the Pay of the Troops, upon Condition that Gopaul Doss engaged to repay whatever could be proved to have been paid at Lucnow in Discharge of the Bills he took upon Butchererauze Doss

111 We at the same Time Ordered that the Accountant at Lucnow and Resident at Benares should be required to return to us the Bond which Mr Bristow gave to the House of Gopaul Doss in June 1783 We also resolved that Colonel Harper should inform the Vizier's Minister that we considered the Bills taken upon the House of Butchererauze Doss as a fictitious Discharge of the Nabob Vizier's Debt and therefore directed that his Excellency's Account Current should be debited and charged for the amount Colonel Harper was likewise informed that we expected that the Vizier should be charged with whatever Expence of Interest the Company might be put to by this Disappointment

112 It appearing that Cashmery Mull was a Partner in the House of Butchererauze Doss we thought it necessary to recommend to the Resident at Benares to be particularly careful in how far he engaged with the House of Cashmery Mull for future Remittances to Calcutta

113 An Arzee was afterwards presented to the Governor General on the 4th of April by Lalla Munwar Doss, Son and Agent of Gopaul Doss, respecting the Modes held out to Option, as before recited for the Payment of the Debt owing from the Company

114 Munwar Doss not approving of either of these Modes, as they appeared to him, desired that Gopaul Doss might be paid from the first Funds which should be realized at Lucnow, as he proposed to consent in Behalf of Gopaul Doss to confirm the Engagement offered by Almas Ally Cawn provided the Board would issue their Commands to Mr Wombwell directing him to inform Almas Ally Cawn that we would see the Conditions of that Engagement performed, and, in Case of failure, Gopaul Doss's Claim would revert to the Company

115 We agreed to the last Proposal and sent Orders accordingly to the Accountant at Lucnow

116 In a Letter addressed to our Secretary by Colonel Harper on the 25th April recorded in our Proceedings noted in the Margin, he has stated to us the whole of this Transaction between Gopaul Doss and Butchererauze

117 On the 3rd March a Letter was addressed to our Secretary by the Accountant at Lucnow, enclosing Duplicate of a Letter which he had received from the Chief and Council at Surat, bearing Date the 7th February with which they returned to him an attested Copy of a Bill for the Sum of Five Lacs of Rupees drawn on the House of Bucherchendoss Bejnaut, which Bill from a Demurr in Payment they had protested for the Amount not received on it, the Sum received being only Rupees Sixty Six

thousand. Your Chief and Council at Surat had been induced from the repeated Promises of the Agent of the House and the reasons he alledged for delaying to Answer the Bill to detain it a few days after Protesting it, but having two fresh Bills from this Government on the same House for a further sum of two Lacs which had also been accepted they thought it necessary to return the Protested Bill and hoped that it would arrive sufficiently early to prevent any fresh Remittances from meeting with similar Disappointments.

118 Upon receiving this Intelligence we directed that the Agent of Lalla Butcherauze Doss should be called upon by a Notary Public to declare whether or not he would discharge the Bill drawn upon Vesvaswarda Vizenath and if he declined that the Bill should be returned Protested to the Accountant at Lucknow Colonel Harper being in that Case directed to inform the Vizier's Ministers that the Board considered the Bills taken upon the House of Butcherauze Doss as a fictitious Discharge of the Naboh Vizier's Debt and acquainted that the Naboh's account Current was to be debited and charged for the Amount he was also to be informed that we expected that the Vizier should be charged with whatever expence of Interest the Company might be put to by this Resolution

119 As the Agent of Lalla Butcherauze Doss would not promise to discharge the Bill beforementioned it was protested and the Resolution above provided in such Case was carried into effect.

120 We acquainted you in our Advices of the 24th March with the Measures which we had taken for the removal of a Foreigner named Dejardie from the Dominions of the Naboh Vizier as well as those of the Naboh Muzaffer Jung in Consequence of a Complaint made against him by the Resident at Ferrockabad. Finding afterwards that a Man of the Name of Percret was connected with Mr Dejardie we directed that if he was a person of a turbulent Disposition and impeded the Public Business the Resident should apply to the Naboh of Ferrockabad to Order his Dismission from the Country

121 In our General Letter of the 24th of March we acquainted you with the Resolutions we had passed on the several Claims to deductions of Revenue made by the Raja of Benares for the last year 1102

122 Mr Grant the Resident at Benares when he received our Resolutions upon this subject expressed his Hope of not only speedily negotiating the Liquidation of the Old Balance to be recovered of Rs 314 6.5.21 due for the Year 1101 but that there was an equally certain prospect of realizing Monthly the Kists of Raja Myhipnarain's Jumma.

123 Mr James Grant having furnished us with the Authorities on which the Raja founded his Claim to a deduction of Rupees 68,387 not admitted by our Reductions abovementioned because the authorities were not before us we took the Claim Into Consideration and
 Consn. 23d June admitted the greatest Part of it Our Resolutions Respecting It will be found in the Proceedings noted in the Margin

124 In the 55 Paragraph of our General Letter of the 24th March

we informed you of a Complaint made by Baboo Jaggerdeo Sing, the late Naib of Benares, of certain Acts of Oppression which were exercised towards him by the Managers of the Zemindarry and that we had referred it to Mr Grant. Mr Grant has since acquainted us that upon his arrival at Benares, one part of the justice which Baboo Juggerdeo Sing Claimed was rendered to him by the removal of the Peons that were put over him, until such Time as personal Investigation might Justify this Act Mr Grant has also acquainted us that he has reason to think from the Enquiry which he had made that Baboo Juggerdeo Sing would be found answerable for the Balance stated against him for the two Purgunnahs which he underfarmed in the Names of two low Persons, without Security, whilst he himself was the Ostensible Naib, this resting the responsibility and Deficiency upon him, and consequently not only justifying but requiring from Mr Grant the renewal of that coercion which he was only released from to enable Mr Grant to act from his own Conviction.

125 The Resident at Benares on receiving our Instructions as advised in the 111th Paragraph of this address called upon Gopaul Doss to return the Original Bond which Mr. Bristow had given to his House in June 1783, but Gopaul Doss positively refused to part with it at that Time urging, in Justification of himself, a strict observance of the Forms of Business only, and appealing to the consideration of Government as to the Situation he would be in if he parted with the Bond before the Bills of Exchange for Ten Lacs of Rupees granted on account thereof by the firm of Birraje and Cashmery Mull upon their Gomastah at Calcutta were first liquidated Gopaul Doss also observed that he saw no Period to which he could look with any certain hope of Relief from that Quarter, and therefore solicited us to receive back the Bills granted by that House in part liquidation of his Bond, and to order his Receipts to be restored for the same, he also urged that for the remainder of the Account for which Money had been received by him he had regularly granted Receipts for it specifying in the Body of them that such Sums were received on Account of the said Bond, and that he was willing to write the Amount off the Bond on restoration thereof

126 We directed the Resident at Benares to lose no Time in having Receipts written as Endorsations on the Original Bond executed by Mr Bristow on the Part of the Company, and that Gopaul Doss might have no Plea or pretence for evading this necessary attention to legal forms, Mr Grant was ordered to tender him the separate Receipts which Gopaul Doss had given to Mr Wombwell and Mr Fowke He was also ordered to receive back the Bills granted by the Firms of Berauge and Cashmery Mull on their Gomastah at Calcutta returning the same to the Accountant at Lucnow, with a Requisition to be furnished with attested Copies of the receipts that might have been or should be given in liquidation of the Bonds executed by Almas Ally Cawn and Bowanny Persaud in repayment of the Bills granted by Berauge and Cashmery Mull, which the Board Endorsed over to Gopaul Doss that the latter might, on these being produced,

give a discharge for their Amounts on the back of the Bond executed by Mr Bristow

127 We refer to our Proceedings noted in Margin for a Letter received by the Governor General from the Raja of Benares in which the Raja bears the strongest Testimony to the good Conduct of Mr Grant during his Residency and declares himself thankful for his appointment

128 The last letter which we have received from the Resident at Benares is Dated the 10th Instant and acquaints us that Raja Myhipnarain has liquidated his Ninth Kist for Jayte which corresponds with the middle of June

129 We refer your Hon ble Court to our Proceedings of the 24th Ultimo for the perusal of a letter addressed to us by Captain William Kirkpatrick Persian Interpreter to the Commander in Chief relative to the Signature of the Commander in Chief having been forged to a Persian Letter addressed to Aliy Abraham Cawn Upon the first mention of the Circumstance the Governor General gave Orders to the Resident at Benares to apprehend Juan Ram, the Person suspected by Captain Kirkpatrick of having committed the Forgery Other Persons were also apprehended who were supposed concerned in the Transaction

130 We have now directed that Juan Ram, the Person in confinement as suspected by Captn. Kirkpatrick of having committed the Forgery of General Sloper's Name be prosecuted and brought to Trial by the Resident at Benares in the Fouzedarry Court at that Place and that the Resident be furnished with attested Copies of Captain Kirkpatrick's Letter of the 4th July and of the Persian Enclosures We have likewise directed that as Captain Kirkpatrick's Moonshay would probably be a material Witness on the Trial and as the Evidence of Captain Kirkpatrick himself might be requisite, it should be ascertained whether or not their Depositions in writing could be received in the said Fouzedarry Court at Benares as legal and sufficient Evidence to the End that they might not be unnecessarily obliged to repair to that place

131 We transmit you a number in this Dispatch a Letter addressed to the Governor General by the Collector of Rungpore with a Particular Account of the present state of Napaul

Foreign

132 We had the Honor to address you from this Department by your Ship Winterton on the 24th of March last and have since transmitted you a Brief Narrative of such Occurrences as have happened since that Period in a Dispatch which was forwarded to you in Duplicate by the Route of Bussorah in the beginning of last Month

133 We have now the Honor to send you by the Severn a Duplicate Copy of our Advice by the Winterton and a Broken Sett of our Proceedings from the 22nd March to the 17th Instant inclusive

French

134 We had the Honor to communicate to you in our Advices of the 24th March last the Resolutions which we had come to with a View of terminating in the most amicable manner the differences which had arisen with Mr Dangereux in regard to the Restitutions to be made in Bengal in Conformity to the 13th Article of the Definitive Treaty of Peace. These were immediately transmitted to our Commissary, to whose letter of April last, which attends you a Number in the Consn 24th April Packet, we beg leave to call your attention. It acquaints us that the Restoration of the French possessions had been completed with the utmost precision in his Power and in direct obedience to our Orders, That he had at Mr Dangereux's request furnished him with Letters to such of our Revenue Chiefs and Collectors as resided in those parts of the Provinces where the French had Factories, requiring them to make over the French Possessions, and to afford their Chiefs every just and reasonable support that might be in their Power in their Commercial Transactions, that he had acquiesced in the French Agent's Claim to send Agents for Trade into those Parts of the Provinces to which it appeared they had heretofore been accustomed to send them, and that he had received the Thanks of Mr Dangereux for the Form of his Letters which he considered as calculated to put a Decisive end to all the Differences which had existed

135 In a Postscript which was added to our Advices of the 30th of June last by the way of Bussorah we had the Pleasure to communicate to you an Account of the Arrival in the River Ganges of his most Christian Majesty's Frigate the Venus from the Isle of France, having Lieutenant Young, Secretary to Colonel Cathcart, on board charged with a Provisional Convention which had been entered into between the Colonel and the Vicomte de Souillac on the 30th of April for the Adjustment of these differences which had hitherto impeded the final Execution of the Stipulations of the Treaty, and proved a Bar to that Spirit of Amity and Conciliation which it has been our constant study to promote in all our Discussions with Mr Dangereux

136 We have already acquainted your Hon'ble Court that Mr. Dangereux had lately renewed the pretensions which he had set forth in the Course of last year in regard to *Dustucks* and had requested that they might be allowed to pass freely until the receipt of your Decision, and that of the Court of France, but that we had not thought proper to admit the present Exercise of that Privilege, his Claims to it having been referred to your Decision with some of his other Requisitions This Point having however been yielded by the 14th Article of the provisional Convention concluded at the Isle of France the Agents of the French Nation and the Chiefs of Factories and Houses of Commerce will be considered as entitled to grant them till the Convention shall be either ratified or annulled in Europe These *Dustuks* are to be accompanied by Invoices, which are to be carried to the Custom House at Houghly or to

any other established by this Government and round the Territory of Chandernagore and are not to be exchanged for Buxbunder Rowannahs but to have a full and free Currency

137 As the Convention hid fair to prevent the possibility of any future Disputes with the Agents of his Most Christian Majesty in Bengal by removing from them every Pretext of Complaint we shall in this Place state to you the different Points which have been gained or conceded by it on either side referring you for a more Minute Detail of them to Colonel Cathcart's address to us of the 5th May from the Isle of France and to the preliminary Discussions between the Colonel and
 Consn. 5th July the Viscomte de Souillac which go numbers in the Packet.

138 The Instructions under which Colonel Cathcart acted were transmitted to the Secret Committee of your Honble Court in the beginning of February by the Fox Packet and the Dutton. They are recorded on our Consultation noted in the Margin together with the Governor
 Consn. 5th July General's Minute of the 17th last January and the letters written to the Viscomte de Souillac and in general all the other Papers which are necessary to the Elucidation of the Subject.

139 On Colonel Cathcart's arrival at Mauritius he had the Satisfaction to find that altho the Viscomte de Souillac was impressed with an Idea that great Concessions had been made and Privileges conferred on his Nation by the 13th Article of the Treaty yet those appeared to strike him as Commercial Advantages only and no Views of Hostility or Ambition seemed to enter into the expectations to which they had given Rise

140 In the Commencement of the Discussion the Viscomte de Souillac contended that our Engagement to guarantee to the Subjects of France a safe free, and independent Trade extended not only to our own possessions but to those of our Allies the Nabobs of Arcot and Owde and the Raja of Tanjore but this after much Discussion was given up by his Excellency and it was declared that this Engagement extended only to the Provinces of Bengal Bahar and Orixas to the Northern Circars, and in general to all the Possessions of the English Company on the Coasts of Coromandel Orixas and Malabar By this Declaration a Position extremely liable to abuse is not admitted Vixt That the French may call upon us to exert our Influence in Favor of their Commerce wherever they may chuse to possess it and whether it may be equal or not to what they require from it.

141 It was insisted by the Viscomte de Souillac that the 13th Article of the Treaty gave the French an undoubted right to Trade in our Possessions under a total Exemption from all Duties and Restraints whatever but this assumed Claim was combatted in the strongest manner by Colonel Cathcart who did not even admit that any Preference was intended to be given them over other European Nations except such as arose from the Guarantee of their Privileges by his Majesty

142 At Length it was agreed that the Municipal Duties in our Principal Settlements should be continued, as well as the usual general

Duties in Bengal, that the Monopolies of Salt, Saltpetre, and Opium should be maintained, and that Salt, Arms and Military Stores should be declared Contraband, with the exception only of 2,00,000 Maunds of Salt which they are permitted to import annually, and which is to be delivered to the Officers of Government at the Price of 120 Rupees per hundred Maunds as was formerly agreed between this Government and Mr Dangereux On the other hand Manifests of Europe Cargoes are not to be required in future, nor is the Price of Goods to be marked on French Dustucks but only their Quantity and Quality and the price is to be regulated by the Ancient Talikas Dustucks are not to be exchanged for Rewannahs and they are not to be issued by the Chief of Chandernagore exclusively, but may also be granted by the Chiefs of all Subordinate Establishments

143 The Ceremony of hailing or visiting French Merchantmen passing up or down the River (with the necessary Exception of trading Vessels informed against as having Contraband Goods on board) has been given up, as it seemed to be a Point which was considered by the French Government as inseparably connected with the Honor of their Nation and by Colonel Cathcart as too unimportant to be weighed with the other objects of his Negotiation, or to be put in competition with the Peace and Harmony of the two Nations

144 The Dispute relative to the Number of French Factories and Houses of Commerce in Bengal has been adjusted by the Vicomte de Souillac agreeing that Mr. Nicholas's Testimony on this Head shall be deemed satisfactory, and that no future increase or Exchange of such Establishment shall be made without the Sanction of Government, a Concession which is regarded by Colonel Cathcart as an unequivocal Proof of the Vicomte de Souillac's Equity and pacific Disposition

145 Assurances have at the same Time been given that when applications for new Establishments are made they will not be refused except upon good Grounds

146 The Jurisdiction of the French Factories and Houses of Commerce has been clearly defined, and all the Inhabitants whether European or Native, as well of these as of the Territories annexed to them are to be under the Protection of the French Flag, and Subject to the French Jurisdiction The Chiefs of Factories and other French Establishments are to enjoy the Privilege of recovering the Debts and Balances due by the Weavers or other Manufacturers as also by the Delols employed by the French, altho' they may reside beyond the Bounds of these Establishments with the restriction that if a Delol should have contracts with more than one European Nation at the same Time, he must only be proceeded against before the ordinary Jurisdiction of the Country.

147. In these French Factories in Bengal where the Dewans shall have exercised a Jurisdiction over their Ryots between the years 1765 and 1775 tho' the Territories inhabited by their Ryots might be beyond the Bounds of the Factories, a Similar Jurisdiction is to be continued, but Natives pursued by the Country Government for Crimes, Misdemeanors

etc. and taking Refuge in the French Factories are to be delivered up Europeans in similar Circumstances may be protected

148 In Cases where French subjects are accused of Outrages against Natives of the Country they are to be delivered over by the Officers of Government to the nearest French Chief who is to examine the accusation and proceed according to the Exigency of the Case but where French subjects have Cause of Complaint against Natives the Cause is to be tried in the Courts of Justice of the Country provided these Cases occur beyond the Bounds of the French Factory

149 These are the Arrangements which have been formed in regard to the Administration of Justice in the Country and by these the Authority of the Native Courts which was never before formally acknowledged by the French is admitted to a very considerable extent.

150 The Exception which the Vicomte de Souillac required from the Jurisdiction of these Courts in Favor of the Chiefs of French Factories occasioned a long Discussion and was terminated by a Declaration that this Privilege should remain as before the War It appeared however it so dangerous to the Interests of Government that Colonel Cathcart thought it necessary to inform the Vicomte de Souillac that if this Claim was not ultimately relinquished, it would become necessary to prevent Dependents of Foreign Companies in Bengal from holding Talooks or Farms.

151 Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart found himself under the necessity of entering into the Discussion of the Disputes which had happened on the Coast of Coromandel altho possessed of few Documents to enable him to form a perfect Judgment in regard to them the Points which have been conceded in that Quarter are the Cession of the Peninsula lately become an Island situated to the East of Yanam with a Reservation in Favor of the Claims which the English Company may have relative to its Extent and Limits and a Savaron containing twelve Candies Malka of Cultivated Land in the District of Catapilly which is to be yielded to them on the Production of a Perwannah said to have been obtained by the French in 1705 from the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn or on Authentic Proof being given that the said Perwannah was obtained

152 The Titles to these Places not having come into Colonel Cathcart's Hands it was impossible for him to determine whether or not they were liable to Dispute the Right of taking up this Subject however at a future Period is reserved should it become necessary and the Places seemed of so little moment that the Cession of them was judged preferable to a Continuance of a Discussion which had been carried to an inconvenient length.

153 The other Arrangements concluded by Colonel Cathcart in regard to the Establishments on the Coast of Coromandel related solely to Commercial Affairs and provided that the Dustucks of the Chiefs of Yanam and the French Factory at Masulipatam should have free Currency in the Northern Circars and should secure a free passage exempt from all Duties whether on exports or Imports, for Goods belonging to the French

Company or to French Individuals, that European Goods passing thro' the Hands of Native Inhabitants of Yanam and of the French Factory at Masulipatam should circulate thro' the Northern Circars under Dustucks of the Chiefs of Yanam and of the French Factory at Masulipatam with entire Freedom from Duties in all Cases where the same Custom takes Place in regard to the Native Inhabitants of Masulipatam and Ingeram, and that the Inhabitants of Yanam should enjoy the rights of Fishing and of Markets, and all the other Privileges they enjoyed before the last War, without being Molested by any Person whomsoever

154 The last Article which came under Discussion related to the Corvette Esperance, which as your Hon'ble Court are already informed, was abandoned in the Month of December last in Consequence of her having been fired at from the Garrison of Budge Budge, and for which we had made an offer of Restitution to Mr Dangereux, which that Gentleman had declined accepting The reparation thus offered has been accepted by the Vicomte de Souillac with an additional Stipulation in Favor of the Family of the Native who accidentally lost his Life on that Occasion, and this Affair which might have been made on all Occasions a Pretext for entering into Disputes with us is thus Definitively settled without being even left open for the Revision of the Court of Versailles

155 As Colonel Cathcart pursued his route to England on the Fox Packet from Mauritius early in May, his Negotiations with the Vicomte de Souillac will have undergone your Revision long 'ere this Letter can reach you. It remains for us however to acquaint you that it has been Ratified by us, and will have effect until the receipt of your Commands upon the subject Our Resolutions in Consequence Consn. 12th July will be found recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin.

156. We beg, leave to request your attention to the Vicomte de Souillac's Letter to the Governor General which accompanied the Convention a Translation of it is transmitted to you a number in the Packet.

157 Copies of our Letters to Fort St George and Bombay, and to Messrs de Cossigny and Dangereux announcing the conclusion of the Convention also attend you numbers in the Packet, and, in order to afford Mr. Dangereux the most unequivocal Proof of our liberal and friendly Disposition, we have resolved that our resolution of the 3d of March last to exempt the Merchandise of the new French East India Company from the Payment of the Company's Duties in Calcutta shall remain in Force until specially revoked; notwithstanding that the Payment of these Duties is specially provided for by the 4th Article of the Provisional Convention. On the Subject of this resolution we have lately received a Representation from several Merchants and Inhabitants of Calcutta, Copy of which is sent a Number in the Packet with the Minutes which have passed upon it Upon this subject we request your early Opinion

158. In conformity to the Stipulation contained in the separate Article of the Convention as Definitively settled with the Vicomte de Souillac, the Seahorse Pilot Schooner has been delivered up to Mr. Dangereux

to replace the Corvette *Esperance* and his Receipt has been taken for her. The Master Attendant has been instructed to supply the Place of the Seahorse with another vessel to bear the same name. Indeed the Vessel which the French Pilot abandoned may still be refitted and orders are given for that Purpose so that we shall have in fact hnt exchanged one Pilot Vessel for another

159 Our high Sense of the important services which Colonel Cathcart has rendered to your Interest has already been communicated to you indeed we consider his services as much connected with the Public Welfare as well as the Prosperity of the Company's Affairs. The French Colonies at Mauritius Pondicherry and Chandernagore exclaim against the Convention as ruinous to their Interests and exclusively favorable to those of the British Nation in India. It will rest with your Honorable Court to decide finally relative to the Merit of Colonel Cathcart's Negotiation.

160 We cannot quit this subject without acquainting you that Lieutenant Young of his Majesty's 78th Regiment who accompanied the Hon ble Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart to the Isle of France has acquired so much Credit by his Conduct during the Course of the Negotiation that we have unanimously voted him our Thanks for his Services and in Consideration of the Opinion expressed by the Governor General that Lieutt. Young may be still very useful in the Line in which he has been employed the Commander in Chief has granted him Permission to remain in Bengal, and the allowances which he drew as Secretary and Assistant to Lieut. Colonel Cathcart have been continued to him. They amount only to 512 Rupees Pr Mensem

161 Our Advices in the Course of the last Season were so full on the Subject of the Differences which had subsisted between us and the Subjects of the Most Christian King that no further Elucidation will be necessary to enable you to form a decided Opinion of the Provisional Convention and Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart is so well instructed in regard to the Claims of the French as well antecedent to the late War as since they took Possession of Chandernagore in July 1785, that we doubt not that you will find his Assistance very essential in the Revision of it.

162 In order to inspire a Confidence in the Merchants who have hitherto been Dealers in Bengal Salt and who might otherwise feel alarm at the unexpected Measure of permitting Coast Salt to be imported on French Ships an Advertisement has been issued publishing this Determination and acquainting the Salt Merchants that this Arrangement will by no means abolish or in any Respect interfere with or affect the present Plan for conducting the Business of the Salt as no other Foreign Salt will on any Pretence be admitted nor the Disposal of this be left in any other Hands but those of the Officers of Government and that to preclude the Merchants from suffering any loss the whole amount delivered shall remain unsold for the space of one year or longer if necessary at the same Time that the Manufacture of Bengal Salt shall be proportionally diminished, so that the Markets may not be overstocked.

163. The Commission granted by the Nabob of Bengal to the Officer who is to be stationed below Budge Budge for the purpose of hailing and visiting Ships against which Information shall have been given in upon Oath, in conformity to the 7th Article of the Convention is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin, and that the other Foreign Nations Navigating this River might have no Cause to charge us with undue Partiality to the French in this respect We have thought it necessary to annul the Regulations for hailing and visiting Ships passing up the River, which were published on the 24th December last, and to substitute in their stead those which are contained in the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 11th Articles of the Convention.

164. The late Committee of Revenue on the 30th of March last transmitted to us Representations which they had received from the Collectors of Customs, regarding the Effect of our Resolution to exempt the Consignments imported by the French Company from the Payment of all Duties except the Government Duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ Pr Cent, and requesting more explicit Instructions on this Subject, they were informed that the Line to be followed by the Collectors was perfectly clear, that in the Passports to be signed by one of the French Agents and sealed with the Arms of their Company, the Kinds, Qualities, Quantities and Prime Cost of Goods imported are to be specified, and the same in respect to Goods exported, that this was necessary to enable the Collectors to determine the Duties to be paid at the Rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ pr Cent on Imports and Exports that the Account of Duties paid by the French Agents being recorded at our Custom House and sent as it will of Course be to the French Company in Europe, must serve as an effectual Check upon any illicit Commerce, which may be attempted under the Name of that Company, and that if they should endeavor either directly by their own Authority or indirectly thro' their Agents, to interfere in the Country Trade of India, or the internal Trade of these Provinces from Place to Place, the Officers of the Custom House must apply for fresh Instructions.

165. For other Representations of a similar nature from the Collectors of Customs we beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings We have instructed the Custom Master in Reply to a Proposition made by him "that a Manifest on Oath should be exacted from the Masters or Super Cargoes of French Ships as to the Cargoe on Board, as to the Proportion belonging to the Company and the Proportion that is Private Property" to follow the Established Regulations and particularly those of the late Convention when they interfere, he has also been desired to keep an exact List of the Goods imported or exported by or on account of the French Company, to be transmitted to your Honble Court and communicated by you to the Directors of the French Company, who if any Goods are registered as shipped for the French Company's Property which are not so will of course detect the Fraud and punish the offenders.

166. The Collector of Government Customs has also been informed

that it was our Intention when we acceded to the Request of the Agents of the French Company to pay only $2\frac{1}{2}$ Pr Cent upon their Imports at and Exports from Calcutta, that they should pay only this Duty for both not $2\frac{1}{2}$ Pr Cent for Imports and again $2\frac{1}{2}$ Pr Cent for Exports of the same Goods into the Country

167 On the 4th of April last the late Committee of Revenue were required to ascertain and lay before us the Amount of Calcutta Duties paid by British Merchants in Calcutta upon Imports and Exports for the last five years, as well as the amount of Duties paid from Foreign Ships at Calcutta for the same period, and this order has lately been communicated to the Board of Revenue who have been desired to extend Consn. 24th July their Statement so that it may include the neat [sic] Annual Amount Collected on account of Government Customs, taking Average of the five last Years, and specifying separately what has been collected from the Foreign Nations what from the Company's Ships and what from the Ships of British Subjects together with the annual Expence of the Custom House Establishments at Calcutta and throughout the Country When these Statements shall have been received we shall be enabled to Judge what Loss the Company would sustain were we to put the private Merchants of Calcutta on a Footing in respect to Duties with the French Company

168 A Letter having lately been written by Mr Dangereux to the Nabob Mobaruck ul Dowla desiring his Protection for Monsr Boserat who is appointed Chief of the French Factory at Sydadab a Copy has been transmitted to us by the Resident at the Durbar who has been informed that whatever rights and privileges were enjoyed by the French at Sydadab before the late War are to be restored to them.

169A. Your President and Council nt Bombay have informed us that since the late Peace took place between Great Britain and France no Point has occurred between them and the French which required the least Discussion and that they surrendered Maho as soon as the Vicomte de Souillac empowered any Person to receive it. They observed however that the French Commissary delivered a Protest to the Commissary on their parts respecting the Condition in which he found Mahe on taking Possession of it. A Copy of it appears on our Proceedings of the 16th May

169B Monsr Bartholomew Cornet as Resident for the French Nation hoisted the French Colours nt their Factory at Calicut on the 20th March

170 Since the Date of the Restitutions which were made by Mr Commissary Wilton to the different Chiefs and Commercial Agents appointed by Mr Dangereux as advised in a former Paragraph of our Letter, some Questions have arisen in regard to the Customs and other Privileges claimed by the French at Maldah Soopore, Chittagong, and Dacca. They are stated in a Minute from the Governor General which goes a Number in the Packet together with Copies of the Papers referred

to in it, and as it is not probable that they will be attended with any Material Difficulties, we shall contend ourselves with briefly relating the Requisitions of the French and the Determinations which we have passed on them

171. At Chittagong Mr. Billon the French Chief sent there by Mr. Dangereux, presented a letter to Mr. Croftes from that Gentleman, acquainting him that he was empowered to take Possession of some *Grounds* at Chittagong which formerly belonged to the French King, and to hoist the French Flag wherever he might reside, but as neither of these Pretensions were even mentioned in Mr Wilton's Letter, which accompanied Mr Dangereux's to Mr Croftes, Mr Croftes refused to give up the Ground, which was claimed or to permit the French Flag to be hoisted at Chittagong, it being proved by undeniable Evidence that the French never possessed a Factory or hoisted a Flag there before the War.

172. Our Resolution on this subject has been that independant of the Evidence produced by Mr Croftes that the Ground claimed by the French at Chittagong was never either given or ceded to them, it cannot now be given because Mr Nicolas, whose Testimony we pledged ourselves to admit, has not even mentioned such Possession, all that he says being "that the French Company kept a Chief at Chittagong".

173. At Soopore the Point in Dispute turned merely upon the Extension affixed by the French to the Dependencies of their Factory, which we have some cause to imagine has been overrated by the French Agents, but as Mr Foley, our Collector in that District, has received Instructions to deliver over to them Soopore with such Grounds, as they can prove by Grant, Sunnud, or Purchase, to be its Dependencies we hope that this affair will soon be settled.

174. The Disputes at Dacca in regard to the Village of Serampore have been adjusted, and, as we have agreed that the French shall possess the Gunge of Nerondy (which is said by Mr. Nicolas to be dependant on the French Factory) Duty free no further Points remain to be settled concerning that District

175. The Difficulty which has arisen in regard to the French Native Agent at Malda related entirely to the Privilege claimed by him (probably in Consequence of Instructions from Mr. Dangereux) of hoisting the French Flag at his House in that Place; and his Intention in this respect having come to the Knowledge of Mr Grant, our Commercial Resident, he desired it to be intimated to him that, if he had such a Design, he would do well to postpone the Execution of it, until a Reference could be made to Government The French Agent, however, did hoist one, which being known at Malda he was sent to and advised to write to his Employers. This he accordingly did and reported (in direct Contradiction to the Truth) that the Flag of his Most Christian Majesty had been disgracefully pulled down Yet, notwithstanding the positive Denial of this Circumstance by our Resident at Malda and his Assistant, it has been impossible to convince Mr. Dangereux of its Falsity.

176 It appears that the Claim of the French to a Right to hoist the Flag at Malda came under Discussion while Mr Bathoe was Resident at that Place before the Commencement of the late War and that on a reference to Government that Gentleman had actually been instructed to pull it down, which was accordingly done Mr Grant's Modification on the present Occasion and with such an Example before him was very commendable

177 We have not yet passed any Decision upon the Subject of the Claim preferred by the French Nation to hoist the National Flag at Malda and Chittagong and at other Factories and Houses of Commerce where Flags were not hoisted before the late War but shall take the subject into our early Consideration. The Convention entered into at the Isle of France has the following Article All the Inhabitants whether Europeans or Natives of the French Establishments Factories and Houses of Commerce as well as of the Territory annexed to them shall be under the Protection of the French Flag and subject to the French Jurisdiction but whether this Article actually authorizes their hoisting that Flag where it appears that they never enjoyed the Privilege of hoisting one before is a matter which requires some Deliberation We shall have the Honor of Communicating to you our Decision on it by the next Dispatch

178A It has lately been resolved by a Majority of the Board on the Application of Mr Rossily Commander of His Most Christian Majesty's Frigate the Venus to advance to him the Sum of 50 000 Sa Ra. to enable him to defray the Expence of outfit and Repairs of the Venus, for which sum he agreed to give Bills upon the Royal Treasury of France payable at Six Months after Sight and at the usual Exchange of 54 Sous Per Sicca Rupee One of the Bills attends you a number in the Packet

Dutch

178B We beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for the Perusal of a letter which we have received from the President and Council at Bombay giving cover to Copy of one from the Director and Council for the Affairs of the Dutch Nation at Surat repeating their Demand to be restored by the Government of Bombay to their Factory at Broach in Compliance with express Orders from their Superiors to that Effect The Reply given to them when they preferred the same Claim in the year 1781 was that by the late treaty the Hon'ble English Company had sold and assigned over the City and Pergunnah at Broach to Madsjee Scindia Behauder who was in full Possession of the same but as they had thought proper to repeat it the President and Council at Bombay acquainted them that they would lay the subject before us and wait our Directions We have not however thought it expedient to give the Dutch Agents any immediate or Definitive Answer but shall wait the Instructions of your Hon'ble Court with which we request we may be furnished with, as soon as possible.

119
179. The President and Council at Bombay have entered into the Discussion of the right to a Factory at Broach at some Length, and it appears by the result of their Investigations that while the Place was in the Possession of the English Government the Dutch had only held a Factory there by Sufferance from the Company, and so well do the then President and Council of Bombay appear to have been convinced of this, that they had actually come to a Determination on the 7th of December 1772 to require them to withdraw from thence with the Effects and Property of the Netherlands Company in Consequence of their unwarrantable Behaviour during the siege of the Place by our Forces, and altho' it was afterwards resolved on the 16th March 1773 "that they should be permitted to hold their Factory there on the former Footing till the Pleasure of the Court of Directors should be known", yet this appears to have been admitted rather as a matter of Favor than from a Conviction that their Claim could be supported by any Plea of Rights

180. Translations of the Firmaunds exhibited to the Government of Bombay in the year 1773 are recorded on our Proceedings of the 23d June, and these, it is remarked (brought forward at a Time when it was of the last moment to the Dutch to produce the very best Authorities they were really possessed of) were nothing better than Orders to pass their Merchandize thro' the Guzerat, free from the Inland and Rahdaree Fees.

181 Our Proceedings of the 24th July contain an application from the Director and Council at Chinsura for our Influence with the King of Ava to procure the Release of a Vessel with her Crew belonging to the Dutch Company named the Crab, which had been obliged to put in at a Port on the Ava Coast where she has been detained and plundered, and the Men enslaved We have readily complied with their Wishes, and the Governor General has accordingly addressed the King of Ava on their Behalf

182. The same Consultation Contains a Representation from the Director and Council at Chinsura complaining of some obstacles which they have met with from our Agents in procuring their Investment at the Aurungs of Chandercona, Keerpay, Radnagore etc. which has been referred to the Board of Trade with Instructions to afford them such Redress if the complaints are well founded, as may be just and proper

Danes

183 Mr Duntzfelt a Member of the Council of Fredericksnagore was lately deputed to Calcutta on the part of the Danish Government to Consn. 24th July represent to us the Grievances and Infringements in the Privileges of their Trade which the Danish Nation and Individuals have suffered since the Commencement of the late War, and which he stated to be chiefly owing to the Regulations adopted by us in respect to the Collection of Government Duties in the years 1781 and 1783, and to our not permitting the Dustucks issued by their Chiefs and

Residents to pass throughout the Provinces a Privilege which he asserts the Danes are entitled to Claim by Virtue of long established Custom.

184. Mr Duntzfelt also desired that the Importation of Salt into Bengal on Danish Vessels might be permitted and that if we should (contrary to his Expectation) refer the Decision to our mutual Superiors in Europe we would allow the Danes the same Temporary Indulgences as we have granted to the French. He was informed in Reply to those Representations that we had directed an Investigation of the usage in respect to collecting and paying the Government Duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ Pr Cent on the Danish Trade before and since the Establishment of the late Board of Customs and that we should take into due consideration this and any other Points which he had been or might be authorized to submit to us.

185. From the Information which has been since received from the Board of Revenue respecting the Mode of collecting and paying the Duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ Pr Cent on the Danish Trade prior to the Establishment of the late Board of Customs, and since that Time it appears that they have been exactly similar. We have communicated this Information to Mr Duntzfelt, and have informed him in reply to a second Letter which he has addressed to us claiming for his Nation the same Indulgences in regard to the Importation of Salt as the French enjoy that the Arrangement which has lately been concluded with the French in virtue of which they are permitted to import a limited Quantity of Salt into Bengal annually has been formed in consequence of some Discussions which have taken place in regard to the Execution of some Stipulations contained in the late Treaty of Peace and that it is to be observed until some final Determination shall be received from Europe on the Subject.

Military

186. On the receipt of your Commands as contained in your Separate General Letter of the 21st September 1785, which communicated to us your Directions for the Formation of a permanent Military Peace Establishment to be kept up under this Presidency we lost no Time in taking them into our most serious Consideration and deliberating upon the Measures to be adopted for giving them effect. Our Construction of these Orders did not entirely agree with the Interpretation put upon them by the Commander in Chief. We take the Liberty of referring you to our Proceedings for a Perusal of the Minutes and Opinions which were delivered on the several Subjects of Discussion and we recommend them to your particular Attention. When we acquainted you with the Resolutions actually passed upon the new Military System prescribed by your Orders, we shall not take Notice of any Difference of Opinion but suppose our Proceedings before you where those Differences will appear.

187. As soon as we received your Commands by the Talbot the Commissary General and the Military Paymaster General were directed to

prepare comparative Statements of the Monthly Difference of Expence in Pay, Batta and Allowances to the Establishments of the European Commissioned Officers of the Army ordered for this Presidency, and the Temporary and permanent Establishments provided for by us in our Resolutions of the 14th and 22d of March which were communicated to you by the Winterton By those it will appear that the Encrease of Expence by your Establishment compared with our proposed temporary Establishment, which was calculated to provide for as many of your Officers as could be usefully employed is Sa Rs 3,736 4 8 Pr Mensem, and it is likewise demonstrated that whenever the Casualties of the Service should have permitted us to confine the Establishment to what was resolved upon for the permanent System the Expence would have been so much reduced that a Comparison between the two would have exhibited a Difference of Sa Rs 33,018 4 8 Pr Month in favor of that which we had proposed to adopt.

188 The Paragraphs of your Separate General Letter dated 21st September 1785 which relate to Military Subjects are the 16th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 82d, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91th, 92d, 93d, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

189. The Military Board^s has been established according to your orders, and, as we deemed the principal duties heretofore performed by the Board of Ordnance to be virtually transferred to the Military Board, the Board of Ordnance has been dissolved, and its Papers and Proceedings made over to the Military Board We have however resolved that the power of finally passing all Bills which were of a kind to have been before passed by the Board of Ordnance is vested only in the Governor General and Council, and that the Military Board are to exercise only such Powers vested in the late Board of Ordnance as the present exigencies of the Service may render necessary without waiting for the Authority of the Governor General and Council

190. We determined that the Members of the Military Board should take precedence in the order particularly specified in the 18th Paragraph of your Letter which is as follows

- 1st The Commander in Chief, President
- 2d. The Senior Officer at the Presidency
- 3d The Senior Officer of Artillery
- 4th The Chief Engineer
- 5th The Adjutant General
- 6th The Quarter Master General
- 7th The Commissary General

191. The Senior Officer at the Presidency and the Senior Officer of Artillery being at present the same Person the Military Board on its Institution consisted of six Members only instead of Seven

192. The Quarter Master General finding himself placed by the

arrangement above recited under Officers who were his Juniors in the Army thought it necessary to address the Commander in Chief upon the Subject. His Letter having been laid before us he was acquainted that we attended to the Precedence specially described in your Instructions when we determined the Order in which the Members of the Military Board were to be severally placed at that Board that their Military Rank was not in our Opinion, affected by that Arrangement, but that the Subject of his Letter should be referred to your Honble Court for Decision on it. We transmit it therefore a number in the Packet

103 Par 26 We have not yet found it necessary to determine on any Rules and Regulations for the Conduct of the Business of the Military Board in addition to those which you have been pleased to prescribe. If any further Regulations should be wanted the occasion will point out the nature of them and they will be immediately adopted

104 Par 27 Lieutenant Isaac Humphrys late Secretary and Accountant to the Board of Ordnance, has been appointed Secretary and Accountant to the Military Board. The Establishment of the Office is as follows

1 Secretary and Accountant	Rs. 1,500 Pr Mansam
1 Assistant Ditto	600
4 Native Writers at 50 each	200
1 Head European Assistant and Accountant	250
2 European Assistants at 200 each	400
8 Native Writers at 50 each	200
1 European Examiner	200
1 Do Reader	100

105 The reasons for this Establishment will be found in a Letter addressed to the Commander in Chief by the Secretary
Consn 24th July to the Military Board under Date the 1st July

106 Pars 78 79 When our Code of Military Regulations shall be before you we are persuaded you will give us Credit for Arrangements which must effect a very considerable Reduction in your Military Expences.

107 Pars. 80 81 82 83 87 We have the Honor to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for the Arrangements which have been made in the Army in Consequence of your late Orders.

108 Before these Arrangements could be finished it was necessary to determine on some essential Points. These will appear in the following Recital of our Resolutions on them

109 We determined that the Corps of Foreign Rangers should be incorporated into the European Battallions.

200 We determined that the Establishment of Officers Ordered by the Court of Directors should be completed from the Officers in India.

201 We determined that Lieutenant Colonels Polier and Martin ought not to be included in the Number of twelve Lieutenant Colonels allotted to the Infantry and that they should be put upon Half Pay

202. We determined that the two Companies of Sepoys forming the Guard of the Resident with Mahajee Sindia should not be included in the Establishment of the Army Ordered for Bengal.

203. We determined that the two Troops of Cavalry fixed for the Peace Establishment should be exclusive of the Governor General's Body Guard.

204. We determined that Lieutenants should be appointed to the Command of all the Sepoy Companies in preference to Ensigns until the Establishment should be reduced to the Number of Lieutenants and Ensigns ordered by your Hon'ble Court.

205. We determined that an Officer of the Rank of Colonel was eligible, in Conformity to the Spirit of your Orders, to be appointed Lieutenant Colonel of one of the Battalions of Artillery on the new Formation.

206. We determined that an Officer of the Rank of Major now on Captain's Pay should be considered eligible to the Command of a Battalion of Sepoys on the new Formation, and as the Officers of the rank of Captain, who were in command of the Two Troops of Cavalry, had distinguished themselves in the late War, we determined that they should be considered eligible to the Command of those Troops if they chose to Act in such Commands upon Lieutenant's Pay

207. We now proceed to acquaint you with the Resolutions which were passed on the 22d May by a Majority of the Board as the Basis of the permanent Arrangement adopted in obedience to your Orders.

208. Resolution 1st "That the Establishment ordered by the Company in their Separate General Letter of the 21st September to be the fixed Peace Establishment of their Army in Bengal be published in General and Garrison Orders and declared to be their fixed Military Peace Establishment "

209. 2nd. "That those Officers who wish to return to Europe shall not only have the Half Pay of their respective ranks but shall have the Expence of their Passage to Europe defrayed by the Company "

210. 3rd "That the Bengal Peace Establishment ordered by the Company be completed from the Officers of the Army Senior in the Line and that the Supernumeraries to the new Establishment do only receive the Pay Batta and Allowances of the next inferior Rank and not those of their rank in the Line, that is, that Supernumerary Majors do receive the Pay Batta and Allowances of Captains and the Supernumerary Captains the Pay Batta and Allowances of Lieutenants "

211. 4th. "As by these Resolutions the Actual Supernumeraries who continue in the Country, and according to the Letter of the Company's Instructions, are to be put upon half Pay will be principally the junior Officers of the Army, and consist chiefly if not entirely of Subalterns, that the Board, from a due regard to their Situation and the expence of subsistence in this Country, do continue to them the Pay which they now draw and Half Batta till the Pleasure of the Court of Directors is known".

212 A Copy of these Resolutions was transmitted to the Commander in Chief who was requested to alter an Arrangement which he had delivered in so as to accommodate it to them

213 Before the whole Arrangement could be completed the Commander in Chief deemed it necessary to ascertain the Board's Intentions on the following Points which did not appear to him perfectly established by the Resolutions above quoted.

214 Suppose after making the Arrangements necessary upon the Company's orders and the Board's Resolutions that there should be an overplus of Captains upon Captain's Pay or upon the Pay of Lieutenants, are they to be posted at once to the European Regiments or Sepoy Battalions as Lieutenants or are they to have the Option of being so posted or of being on the Half Pay List ?

215 'Supposing the Preference to be given being on the Half Pay List, what is to be the pecuniary Situation of the Captains now on Captain's Pay ?'

216 These Questions having been duly considered the following Resolutions were past by a Majority of the Board

217 That the Excess or Overplus of Captains after the new Establishment is completed be posted to the Sepoy Corps in the proportion of one Captain to each Battalion according to the Plan adopted by the Commander in Chief regarding the Supernumerary Captains in the Arrangements of the 23d March last and, if any should still remain after this Allotment, that they be distributed among the European Battalions as the Commander in Chief may judge proper The Captains so posted are to receive the allowances of every denomination and to be entitled to the Proportion of Quarters and Camp Equipage of Lieutenants only

218 That an Option be given to the Supernumerary Captains to be posted or to be on the Half Pay List.

219 That the Pecuniary Situation of those Captains who prefer being on the Half Pay List be their Half Pay and Half Batta as Captains

220 That all the Supernumerary Officers above the rank of Lieutenants who do not chose to serve on the Pay Batta and Allowances of the next inferior Rank shall have the Half Pay and Half Batta of their own Ranks.

221 That the Line of Subalterns for the new Establishment be filled by Lieutenants on Lieutenant's Pay appointing two to the Grenadier Companies 1 to each European Company and 1 to each Company of Sepoys and that the Senior Lieutenants who remain after these Lieutenants are so posted shall have the Option of serving in the European Battalions, instead of Ensigns on Ensign's Pay Batta and Allowances or of being on the Half Pay List on the full pay and half Batta of their Ranks until the Pleasure of the Hon ble Court of Directors be known

222 That Ensigns as Supernumeraries do enjoy the full Pay and Half Batta of their Rank

223 That the Supernumerary Officers who prefer the Half Pay and

Half Batta, and the Supernumerary Subalterns, be permitted to reside wherever they Please within the Provinces in the manner agreed by the Board, on the Recommendation of the Commander in Chief, respecting the Supernumerary Officers of the former arrangement, but that they are to have no Claim to Quarters or any allowances for House rent in lieu thereof.

224. That, after the several Corps have been completed with Officers, the Adjutant General be directed to form a List of all the Field Officers, Captains, and Subalterns who will then remain Supernumerary to the new Establishment specifying, opposite to their names, whether they are to receive the Pay and Allowances of the next Inferior Rank or the Half Pay and Half Batta of their own Ranks.

225. That this List be published in General Orders for the information of the Office of Controul and Disbursement.

226. That in the mean time, in Order to put an End to the present Expence, the reduced allowances fixed for the Supernumerary Officers do commence from the 1st Septr. next.

227. That the Supernumerary Officers shall again succeed to the Enjoyment of their full Pay and allowances in the tour [*sic*] of Seniority as Vacancies happen in the several ranks of the prescribed Establishment.

228. That Deaths, absolute Resignations, leaves of absence to proceed to Europe, Dismissions, removals to the Invalid Establishment or appointments to staff Stations which will preclude Officers from doing duty on the Strength of the Army be considered as the Incidents which only can create such Vacancies

229. That the Adjutant General be directed to keep an Accurate Record of such Casualties, and that the Commander in Chief be requested to publish them in General Orders as often as they occur for the Information of the Parties concerned and the Guidance of the Commissary General and Paymasters to the Army.

230. That Officers who *shall thus* succeed to their full Allowances shall not suffer any future decrease of them by Officers returning to the Service from Europe, who, on their return, are to be in the Half Pay Situation until vacancies occur which they will have a Claim to fill by Seniority of Rank

231 That the Supernumerary Officers of every Description including the Majors Commanding Battalions of Sepoys, as they form only a Temporary Establishment and do not make a Constituent Part of the new System, who chuse to retire to Europe on the Half Pay of their respective Ranks, conformable to the 87th Paragraph of your General Letter be required to send their names immediately to the Adjutant General.

232. That the Adjutant General be directed to prepare a List of such Officers to be laid before the Board by the 1st of September to the end that the necessary measures may be taken for the Arrangement of their Passages on the Hon'ble Company's Ships of the Season

233. That in explanation of our Resolution of the 22d of May it be understood that the Sums to be allowed to such Officers for their Passages

are to be regulated according to the specific rates to which the Captains of Indlamen are restricted by the Court of Directors for the Passages of the different Classes of their Military Servants.

234. That in order to obviate as much as possible any further Delay in completing the Arrangements the Commander in Chief be requested to issue such subsidiary orders as he may judge necessary for carrying them into effectual execution conformably to the Plan resolved on by the Board

235 We transmit to you a number in the Packet Copy of a Memorial addressed to us by the Captains of the Army in which they represent the Hardship which they conceive themselves to have suffered by our resolutions which declare Majors on Captain's Pay to be eligible to the Command of Sepoy Battalions.

236 We trust that the measures which we have adopted for carrying your new Establishment into Execution will receive your Approbation as they appear to us to embrace all the essential objects of the new System with a due regard at the same Time to the long and Distinguished Services of your Field Officers. If the Officers of the rank of Captains suppose a Prejudice done to their rights by our Construction of your Orders with how much greater Reason might the Majors in the Pay of Captains have complained if the Construction had been different! They might have told us that long and Honourable Service had proved ruinous to their views that they had long subsisted upon the allowance of Captains and had hitherto been always so posted but that when it became of consequence to them to continue so their situations were varied and they must be Majors. They might have told us that even upon principles of Economy an Arrangement adverse to their Interests could not be commended since of course it would cost less to put the Junior Officers upon Half Pay than those of higher rank and certainly there is one Argument which they would not have omitted to use in support of their Pretensions they would have referred to your Orders of the 28th August 1782 where you remarked upon the Military Regulations of 1781 and they would have quoted your positive Directions that the advanced Pay and allowances to the Officers thus appointed to the Rank of Major and Captain be immediately discontinued until those Officers shall have *risen to such Superior Rank* according to the Establishment of the Army before the Regulations abovementioned took place These and other Arguments would doubtless have been used by the Majors on the Pay of Captains. Those of the Captains will be before you

237 We have resolved that Commissions be granted to the Adjutant General and Deputy Adjutant General Quarter Master General and Majors of Brigades in the form of the official Commission granted to the Adjutant General in the Carnatic which makes the Rank determine with the Post We have also resolved that the Commissions granted to officers of the Establishment who have been promoted in consequence of your late Orders be so prepared as not to subject them to be junior to the Carnatic Officers

promoted from the same Cause and to whom they were before Senior

238 We have the Honor to refer you to our Proceedings of the 31st May for the promotions and appointments which have taken place in Consequence of your Commands of the 21st of September 1785 Besides the Persons named in the List of Appointments we have nominated the Revd Mr Goddard Chaplain to the 4th Brigade, the Revd Mr. Seecombe Chaplain to the 5th and the Revd. Mr David Brown Chaplain to the 6th and Captain Scrymgeons, Lieutenants Gould, Faucitt, Harriott, and Orme have been appointed Majors of Brigade.

239 The Commander in Chief acquainted us that by the new Formation of the Artillery Regiment into three Battalions of five Companies each, each Company having but eight Gunners allowed to it and no Bombardiers, there became in the return of every Company a number of Supernumerary Bombardiers and Gunners at the same Time that the Company was not complete in Men The General observed that the Men of the Artillery are not enlisted as Bombardiers or Gunners, nor are the Bombardiers or Gunners the Non Commissioned Officers, but that they have the same Pay as Corporals The General desired to be informed what was to be done with these Men It appeared that eighty Bombardiers and one hundred and Twenty Gunners were struck off the Artillery by the new Establishment We resolved that the Supernumerary Bombardiers and Gunners should be continued as such upon their present pay until the number becomes reduced by Casualties which are not to be filled up

240 We resolved that a Colonel Commanding an European Battalion should be likewise in Command of the Sepoy Brigade of a corresponding Number and that when the Station of an European Battalion be different from that of the Sepoy Brigade or when other Circumstances require it the Post of Colonel be ascertained in General Orders.

241 Pars 84 85 86. We refer you to a Minute delivered in by the Commander in Chief respecting the Military Establishment at Fort Marlborough We have supposed that one Company of Artillery, two Companies of European Infantry, and four Companies of Native Infantry would be a proper Establishment to be stationed there, and we shall continue to deem such a proper Establishment until the Representations from that Residency shall convince us that it is not so. We have resolved that each of these Companies should be of the exact Formation of a Bengal Company, and belong to the Bengal Establishment in every Respect We are of Opinion that the Army which is to be kept up in Bengal will not admit of so large a Detachment from it consistently with the uniformity of System which you have adopted, and the Good of the Service, and we have therefore agreed that the Military Establishment at Fort Marlborough shall be considered as entirely separate

242 We find from the last return which we have seen of the number of Commissioned and non Commissioned Officers and Privates at Fort Marlborough that it is as follows

Infantry

1 Major, 3 Captains, 2 Captains on Lieutenant's Pay 3 Lieutenants,
1 Ensign

Artillery

2 Lieutenants, 2 *Lieutenant Fireworkers* 150 Europeans Rank and
file 430 Natives 20 Invalids European and Native

243 Our Resolutions respecting the Establishment at Fort Marlbro
are as follows.

244. 1st That a Captain Lieutenant or the Senior Lieutenant of
Artillery whether in Bengal or at Fort Marlbro be promoted to the rank of
Captain to Command the Company of Artillery at that Place. We have
determined that Captain Lieutenant Carnegie shall have the option of being
appointed Captain to the Company of Artillery now doing duty at Fort
Marlbro and in case he should give the preference to remaining in his
present Situation that the eldest Lieutenant serving in the Corps of Artil-
lery be promoted to the Rank of Captain and placed to the Company of
Artillery at Bencoolen

245 2nd That the four Independent Companies of Sepoys fixed
on by the Board for the Service of Fort Marlbro be commanded by the
subalterns now there vizt. Lieutenant William Peach Lieutenant Barnes
Lieut. John Moore and Ensign Chas. Hamilton

246 3d. That the Officers at Fort Marlbro who become Supernu-
merary to the prescribed Establishment for that Residency Vizt. Major
William Phillips, Captain Thomas Chandler Medhop Blandel Isaac Bayns
George Carpenter and William Becket be allowed the Pay and Half Batta
of their respective ranks or to return to England with the Leave of the
Deputy Governor and Council at Fort Marlbro on their Half Pay according
to our Resolutions of the 31st ultimo respecting the Supernumerary Officers
of the Bengal Establishment

247 4th That it be referred to the Determination of your Hon ble
Court whether the Supernumerary Officers at Fort Marlbro are or are not
eligible upon vacancies to be placed with their Ranks in the Bengal Army

248 5th That the Commander in Chief be requested to arrange
the Sepoy Corps at Fort Marlbro so as to give them such strength until
the European Companies can be established as he deems necessary for the
Defence of that Settlement

249 6th That the Officers and Men at the Residency of Fort
Marlbro be allowed the same Pay Batta and allowances as the Officers
and Men of this Establishment are allowed in similar Situations the
Rupees of the Country being valued generally as Sonant and that the
Commissary General do prepare a Statement of the Pay and Batta etc. of
the different Ranks in Bengal to be sent to Fort Marlbro for the Ouidance
of the Deputy Governor and Council

250 This Statement has been received and will be transmitted to Fort Marlbro' by the first Dispatch.

251. By the 4th Resolution above recited it is left to your Hon'ble Court to determine whether the Supernumerary Officers at Fort Marlbro' are or are not eligible upon Vacancies to be placed with their Ranks in the Bengal Army.

252 In the 131st Paragraph of your General Letter dated 1st April 1760 the Court ordered as follows

"The Officers of all the Presidencies with respect to the Company are but one Body and whenever our Service requires the removal of Officers from one Settlement to another Rank must be preserved conformable to the Dates of Commission "

253. At the same Time and in the same Paragraph the Court insisted strongly on the Impropriety of introducing Officers of little service from our Presidency over the Heads of brave and experienced Officers without the most urgent necessity Had we adopted the Sentiments of the Court as above quoted the Situation of the Bencoolen Officers on the List of the Bengal Army, on the Dates of their respective Commissions being known, would be immediately ascertained, but we should have been reduced to a Dilemma by introducing Officers of little or no Service over the Heads of brave and experienced Officers who to our knowledge have acquitted themselves gallantly and therefore merit Favor.

254 The Subject is submitted to your Decision and if you should be pleased to determine that the Officers at Fort Marlbro, should be incorporated into this Army you will establish the Mode of effecting it whether according to the Dates of their respective Commissions or that they should come in youngest of their respective Ranks

255. The Commander in Chief having proposed to us to recommend to your Hon'ble Court to send and complete from Europe whatever European Force you intend for the Establishment of Fort Marlbro,' the General observing that reliefs from hence will be attended with every inconvenience, and derange that uniformity of System which the Company seem to have been partial to We beg leave to recommend this measure to your adoption of it, as well for the reasons which the Commander in Chief has stated as because much Time and expence may be saved in the direct transportation of recruits from England to that Residency

256 Lieutenant Colonel Alexr Murray, who Commanded your Troops at Fort Marlbro' having acquainted us that the Situation of his private affairs strongly urges his return to England and that he obtained the Permission of the Deputy Governor and Council at that Place to apply to us for Leave to proceed thither made his application to us and requested Leave of absence for three Years or upon Half Pay

257 As it appeared by a Letter which we received from Fort Marlbro' Dated the 5th May that the Settlement of Tappanooly had been taken by the Achmees and that it was proposed to fit out an Expedition from Fort Marlbro' against them we have directed Lieutt. Colonel Murray

to proceed to Fort Marlbro and resolved that the Deputy Governor and Council be authorized to grant him Permission to return to Europe upon Half Pay whenever they may be able to dispense with his Services but that it be left to the Court of Directors to determine what that Half Pay shall be. Lientt Colonel Murray's rank as Lieutenant Colonel is derived from a Brevet Commission given to him at Fort Marlbro. Upon the Establishment of Bengal he enjoys the rank of Captain.

258 Par 88. Your Honble Court having been pleased to direct in this Paragraph that the Native Officers who have become Supernumerary by your Orders shall be retained upon full Pay and that we should take the earliest opportunity of restoring them to their former Situations, a Question arose whether the Non Commissioned Officers vizt Havildars and Naiks were to be included within the benefit of this Order. We considered that the Native Officers under this description constituted a valuable Part of your Native Force and were the best qualified to be of use to Foreign Powers should they enter into their service. We therefore agreed to retain them on their full Pay.

259 The Native Officers stationed at Mongheer were on Half Pay and Quarter Batta, an allowance not equal to that now Ordered for Supernumerary Native Officers. We agreed that the Native Officers stationed at Mongheer should remain as at present understanding that they were satisfied with their Situations.

260 Pars. 80 90 91 92 93 94 Our Resolutions on the Formation of the Hospital Board agreeably to your Orders, are recorded on our Proceedings of the 16th May in the Secret Department of Inspection. The Board consists of Mr James Ellis late Surgeon General who is appointed Physician General Mr Andrew Williams Chief Surgeon and Mr John Fleming Surgeon to the Hospital at Head Quarters and their Proceedings from the date of their Institution to the 17th Instant attend you a Number in the Packet.

261 Doctor Francis Balfour Surgeon to the Residency of Benares conceiving himself entitled to the Station of Physician General as being the Senior in his Profession who holds the Diploma of a Physician on the List of Surgeons in Bengal addressed a Letter to us on the Subject which is recorded on our Proceedings of the 23d June. He has been informed that we entertain an high sense of his abilities and Merits but that his application could not be complied with as Mr Ellis who was at the Head of the Medical Department had previously been appointed in Conformity to the Spirit of your Orders.

262 No Salary having been fixed for the Member of the Hospital Board who is Surgeon to the Hospital at Head Quarters we have in Compliance with the Spirit of your Instructions allowed him the same as is granted to the Head Surgeon of every Hospital where 8,000 Men may be stationed Vizt. £1,500 Per Annum and we have also resolved that the Salaries which you have granted in Pounds Sterling to the Gentlemen in the Medical Department shall be valued at the same rate of Exchange in

Current Rupees as our own Salaries Vizt 1s. 9p. Pr Current Rupee. The Secretary to the Hospital Board has been allowed Rs 800 Pr Menssem and 600 for Writers and all Contingencies, and the Subsecretary is allowed a Salary of 400 Rs. Pr Menssem

263 Several Questions having been submitted to us by the Hospital Board, our answers to which were stated to be necessary to be communicated to them before they could proceed to form the Medical Arrangements directed by your Instructions these and our Opinions on them are recorded on the Proceedings noted in the Margin We beg leave
 Consns 23d and 30th June to refer you to them and shall content ourselves with acquainting you in this Place with our Resolution that your Arrangement for the Army Surgeons does not interfere with the Surgeons appointed for the Civil Servants at the Presidency, nor does it separate the Civil and Military Surgeons with respect to their rise as fixed by the General Orders of the 12th March 1773, and approved by your Hon'ble Court on the 23d December 1778, altho' the Denominations of Surgeons are in some Instances changed, that Surgeons are necessary to the Factories of Patna, Moorshedabad, Dacca, and Chittagong, and to the Residencies of Lucnow and Benares, that Surgeons stationed at Subordinates who by their Seniority would be entitled to the Stations of Hospital or Regimental Surgeons are to have the option of remaining at their present Stations or of joining the Army, but that they should not be afterwards allowed to join on any Vacancy unless they should, six months before the Vacancy occurred, have given formal notice to the Hospital Board that it was their Intention to join the Army on a Vacancy, and that Supernumerary Surgeons shall have the option of being included among the forty five Hospital Mates

264. Mr R C Birch was in Conformity to your Regulations, appointed purveyor of Military Hospitals, and took the Charge of his appointment on the 1st of last Month The Regulations which have been established for conducting the Duties of his Office will be found on our Proceedings of the 16th of June last We have resolved that he shall be paid by a per Centage on his Disbursements which will be fixed as soon as we shall know what these Disbursements are His Deputies at each Station are allowed a Salary of 200 Rupees Pr Menssem and 200 Rupees for Establishment and Contingencies

265 A Letter was addressed to us by the Physician General, and is recorded on our Proceedings of the 30th June in which
 Consn 30th June he stated that a very considerable encrease of Expence would be occasioned by the new Regulations for the Medical Department, and that they were Inferior in many respects to those hitherto in Force He therefore recommended a Deviation from them until your Pleasure shall be known, and more especially in that part which related to the Office of Purveyor Mr Ellis was informed that no deviation could be admitted, and that your Commands must be carried into immediate effect. Some Difficulties having been stated in regard to the General Hospital at

the Presidency, we resolved that it should be considered as a Military Hospital and that the Sick who are now in it or may go there hereafter altho not in the Military Service as well as the Insane Persons who have been attended by the late Surgeon General shall be attended by the Surgeon of the Hospital established at Head Quarters and supplied by the Purveyor according to the Line of Dnty marked out for him in the late Regulations the Purveyor keeping a separate Account of such Charges as are not on account of the Military Department

266 The Medicine Shop in Calcutta has been delivered over to the Charge of the Apothecary Mr Edmund Bengough who will account to the Hospital Board for the receipt and Expenditure of Stores according to the Form prescribed by your late Regulations Mr Bengough is allowed a Salary of 800 Rupees Pr Mensem and an Assistant who draws 400 Pr Mensem.

267 The Surgeon to the Hospital at Head Quarters having represented to us that the Hospital stood in immediate want
Consn. 12th July of considerable repairs and alterations for the accommodation of the Sick such as were stated to be indispensably necessary have been ordered to be made by the Buxoy who is desired to form an Estimate of the Expence attending the rest.

268 We believe that there is not more than a sufficient Number of Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons on this Establishment for its necessary service

269 Pars. 95 96 97 98 On the 4th Ultimo the Commander in Chief delivered in a Minuto upon the Subject of these Paragraphs and suggested to us that he knew of no better remedy that could be proposed to prevent the use of bad spirits and an improper Quantity of them than the most absolute Prohibition of Spirits being sold in Military Bazaars by any other than the Victualling Contractor at Stated Prices and under the Control of the Commanding Officer and that, altho this Method might be subject to evasion he was convinced that the Officers would not take any steps to counteract Orders or do any thing to the disadvantage of the Troops The Commander in Chief observed that if we approved of the sale of Spirits being confined to the Victualling Contractor he wished that the Order for that purpose was the Order of Government

270 The General observed that the infinite Evil of Gin Shops etc in Calcutta was the source of Evils of every nature that Drunkenness could be productive of to the Europeans in the Garrison of Fort William and that if the Number of these Shops could not be limited and put under proper restrictions he feared that our Internal Arrangements in the Fort would be of little avail particularly as after the Troops were in Arrears the common Soldier was at Times in the receipt of a considerable Portion of his Pay

271 The Commander in Chief further acquainted us that he understood there were Bazaars immediately in the neighbourhood of some of the great Cantonments which were not private Property but paid a Revenue

to Government and he was of Opinion that unless effectual means were used to prevent the Sale of Spirituous Liquors in them, all Regulations upon that Head in the Military Bazar would in no Degree lend to the Preservation of the Troops

272 The Objects of the Commander in Chief's Minute as far as they relate to the Presidency, we are prevented from carrying into Execution on account of the Interference of the Supreme Court We have long since proposed the Sketch of a Bye Law to the Judges which if approved by them would afford the necessary Checks for restraining the Sale of Spirituous Liquors in the Town of Calcutta and Neighbourhood of Fort William They have not yet come to any Resolution on the Subject In regard to the Military Stations beyond the Precincts of Calcutta we shall endeavor to accomplish the Purposes of the Commander in Chief's Recommendation.

273 In our Consultation of the 1st of June you will see a Letter Addressed to us by Colonel Norman Macleod, Commanding the Troops at Dinapore, in which he represents that the Health of those Troops depends much on their Officer being enabled to prevent the Sale of Arracks and other Spirituous Liquors, and that he had taken the greatest Pains to prevent that Evil, but not with such entire success as he wished, that Bazars and Villages, totally independent of his Command, existed within 400 Yards of the Cantonments, which rendered it impossible to prevent the Sale of Liquors and other destructive abuses, that the Districts round the Cantonments were formerly under the Charge of the Commanding Officer at Dinapore, but, few Troops having been stationed there for some Years, they had gradually fallen into the Management of the Neighbouring Collectors Colonel Macleod therefore, for the sake of the Health and Discipline of the Troops under his Command solicited that the Villages and Lands to the Eastward, as far as the Wooden Bridge on the road to Patna including Luly Gunge,* those to the Westward including Serpore, and those to the Southward to the distance of three Miles might be put under his Management and that of his Successors in the Command at Dinapore, the Rents which they now pay the Hon'ble Company continuing to be paid.

274 We agreed to Coll Macleod's request in the Terms of it, and directed the Board of Revenue to issue the necessary Orders in Consequence

275 Par 99 The Commander in Chief is making some Arrangements in respect to the Cloathing of the Troops which when completed will be communicated to you

276 Par 100 This Paragraph has been published in General Orders and we are certain will afford the greatest Satisfaction to your Officers on this Establishment

277 Having now done ourselves the honor of communicating to you our Proceedings on the several Paragraphs of your separate General Letter dated 21st September 1785 we shall proceed to acquaint you with our

*Lesby Gunge in another Copy.

Determinations on those Paragraphs of your Letter of 22nd December 1785 which were considered in this Department.

278 These Paragraphs were the 14th 15th 16th 17th and 18th.

279 Pars 14 and 18 These Paragraphs have been published in General Orders. The Number of Recruits that have already arrived in the different Ships of the Season are 1 003 exclusive of 103 arrived in the Talbot a Ship of the last Season

280 Pars 15 16 The Hon ble Lieutt Colonel Cathcart not being in Bengal we have not had it in our Power to acquaint him with the Honor done him by the unanimous Resolution of your Hon ble Court on the 19th December 1784 requesting his acceptance of a Sword in Testimony of his Gallant and Distinguished Behaviour in storming the French Redoubt near Cuddalore on the 13th June 1783

281 Par 17 We shall Carefully obey the Discretion by not granting any Orders to the Commanders of the Company's Ships to carry any King's Officer to Europe to be paid by you for their Passage until every Enquiry has been made whether any Sums have been paid at any of your Settlements on that Account

282 We have been honored by the receipt of your General Letter Per Berrington dated the 24th February 1786 The 1st 9th, 10th 12th 13th 14th 26th 27th 28th 29th 30th and 31st Paragraphs of that Letter appertaining to this Department we now Reply to them.

283 Par 9 This Paragraph has been communicated to the Agent for Military Stores the Commissary of Stores and the Marine Storekeeper for their Information and Guidance and we shall be as careful as possible that no Occasion is afforded for Complaint respecting future Indents.

284 Pars 10 12 These Paragraphs have been communicated to the proper Officers and to the Military Board.

285 Par 13 This paragraph has been communicated to the Marine Storekeeper and Military Board

286 Pars. 14 20 These Paragraphs have been sent to the Military Board

287 Pars 18 19 21 These have been published in General Orders

288 Par 23 We have directed our Secretaries to be very attentive to this Order

289 Par 20 Mrs. Jackson, Widow of the late Doctor Rowland Jackson having proceeded to England we have not had it in our Power to acquaint her with your Resolution on her Application to be admitted to the Benefit of the Military Fund

290 These Orders have been sent to the Military Paymaster General who has been directed to lose no Time in the Investigation and adjustment of the Claim made by the Executors of the Will of the late Captain Harvey Spellman

291 We have received your Orders of the 14th March by the Ship William Pitt and shall do ourselves the Honor of replying to them by the next Dispatch

292 We now proceed to acquaint you with the Several subjects that have come before us in this Department and have not been already noticed in the present Dispatch

293 On the 10th May last a Letter was addressed to the Commander in Chief, and laid before us, from Colonel Pearse, stating that, in Consequence of the Death of Colonel Saml Hampton, he was become the Senior Officer of this Establishment, and requesting that he might be declared second in Command agreeably to the Orders on that Subject

294 This Application from Colonel Pearse occasioned some Debate The Minutes that were delivered on the Subject are transmitted to you Numbers in the Packet We beg Leave to request your attentive Consideration of the Opinions expressed in them, and of the Reasons which governed our Resolution declaring Colonel Pearse next in Command of the Company's Troops in Bengal to the Commander in Chief in India.

295. Colonel Blair, the Senior Officer of Infantry on this Establishment, deeming himself much aggrieved by this Resolution addressed us on the subject of it, stating the Grounds on which he rested his Claim to this Honorary Station in Preference to Coll Pearse, and requested that, if we would not grant him advanced Rank, which was not in our Power after the receipt of your Prohibitory Orders of the 11th April 1785, and if we decided finally in favor of Coll. Pearse's Pretensions, we would transmit to you by the first Conveyance a Memorial which he had addressed to your Hon'ble Court

296 A Copy of Colonel Blair's Letter to this Government was transmitted to Coll. Pearse The Letter and his Reply to it together with Coll. Blair's Memorial to your Hon'ble Court and a Memorial from Coll Pearse are transmitted Numbers in this Packet We request your early Consideration of the References thus made to your Decision on the Claims of these Officers

297 The Commissary General attending the Board on the 16th of June last with some Military Regulations which had formerly been passed, and were lately arranged so as to conform to your Orders, a Question arose who should receive the additional Salary of Sonaut Rupees 8000 Pr Annum Ordered in the 27th Paragraph of your General Letter dated 11th April 1785. Our Opinions upon this Question are sent Numbers in the Packet It was resolved by a Majority of the Board that Colonel Pearse, who was declared by our resolution of the 7th of May to be considered the Officer next in rank in the Company's Troops in Bengal to the Commander in Chief in India, was entitled to the additional Salary of Sonaut Rs 8,000 per Annum until your Pleasure should be known

298 The Board having resolved that Coll Pearse was eligible to the Command of a Battalion of Artillery he was, as the Senior Officer of that Corps, posted to the first Battalion, which Battalion was stationed at Cawnpore - As second in Command of the Company's Troops and next to the Commander in Chief, all Officers belonging to the Station at which he might reside would of Course be under his Orders. Thus the General

311 We also forward by this Dispatch Copies of the Proceedings of the late Board of Ordnance from the 1st January to the 1st July 1785 with Index

312 To obviate any Ideas of neglect that might arise from the backwardness of these Proceedings as well as of the Annual Books for 1784/5 we beg leave to remark that the Delay has been entirely and unavoidably owing to the great Reductions which took place in the Establishment of the Ordnance Department in Consequence of your Orders P Dutton in October last

313 In that Part of our present Dispatch which comes under the Head of Reforms we shall acquaint you with the Measures we took for appropriating uncultivated Lands to the use of the Lascars who had been reduced by our Arrangements of the 14th and 22d of March. The Commander in Chief has lately informed us that many of the Syrranges, Tindals and Consobs who were ordered Portions of these Lands were assembled in Calcutta, and had represented to him that the Lands which had been offered to them would not yield the least return for three or four Years was not worth cultivating The Commander in Chief observed that many of them by the Testimony of their Officers were deserving Men and had served in the Carnatic or in the West of India and that were they to go into the Service of the Enemy they would be of more Advantage than any description of Natives in our Employ For these Reasons he begged the Board to consider whether it would not be advisable to put them upon the same Allowances as the reduced Native Officers according to the proportions of their full Pay

314 We concurred in Opinion with the Commander in Chief, and agreed that the Lascar Officers who had been reduced should be put upon the half Pay and quarter Batta of their Ranks and sent to Mongheer

315 We refer you to our Proceedings of the 16th June for a temporary Arrangement we have adopted for the Paymaster's Department in consequence of your late Orders.

316 The Barracks in the Dinapore Cantonment being reported to be in very bad condition, we directed the Commanding Officer at that Station to call upon the Contractor to make the necessary repairs without Delay and on the Contractor's refusing or failing to do so to protest against him in the proper form and give Orders to the proper Officer to do the work which required to be executed immediately We also resolved that the Cantonments at Berhampore and Dinapore should be inspected by Engineers best acquainted with the Art of building that they should state what was necessary to be done to put them in perfect repair and deliver an Estimate of Expence attending it that they should likewise state what money will be required setting aside extraordinary circumstances or accidents to be laid out annually for the purpose of keeping the Cantonments in proper repair either for one two or three years, or till such Time as they might judge that such a general Repair might become requisite as did not come within the description of a necessary Annual repair

317. We beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for the orders which we have passed from Time to Time for the repairs of Fort William and the Improvements that are making there under the Direction of your present Chief Engineer

318. We refer you to our Consultation of the 17th July for the Contingent Demands which were laid before us in the course of last Month and the Resolutions which we passed on them

319 The Commander in Chief having laid before us two Maps prepared by Lieutt Rind, one of the Siek Country, which he was at a good deal of expence and trouble in procuring, and the other a Survey of the Roads from Lucnow to Agra, Delhi, and Deig, which he took in the twenty Months he Commanded the Escort with Major Brown, for which he had also been at considerable Expence, and as we had reason to believe that these Maps and Surveys would be of the greatest utility in the Completion of the General Map of India, we resolved that the Sum of 4,000 Sicca Rupees should be granted as a present to Lieutt Rind in token of our Approbation of his labours, and as a Reimbursement also of the Expence he had been at in finishing the Work

320 In our Consultation of the 24th Ultimo you will find recorded the Proceedings of the Committee of Officers held by order dated the 27th April for the Examination of the Accounts of the Agents for Military Cloathing and for adjusting the Dividends of off-reckonings for the Year 1784. We have confirmed the adjustment, and published it in General Orders

321 Our Consultation of the same Day contains the Proceedings of the Committee of Surgeons whom we appointed to investigate the Merits of several Memorials transmitted to us by Surgeons of the Army respecting Rank, and our Resolutions upon these Proceedings

322 We have the Honor to refer to our Consultation of the 4th ultimo for the Perusal of a Representation transmitted by Sir John Dalling to the Governor General stating many Difficulties and Inconveniences which had arisen at Fort St George in the execution of Military Law and enlarging on the extent of Martial Law in the East Indies, and the power of ordering General Courts Martial It being the request of Sir Jn Dalling, no less than the particular wish of the Commander in Chief of the Forces in India, and that of the President and Council at Fort St George, who addressed us on the subject, that this Representation should be referred to the Judges of the Supreme Court, it has been referred to them accordingly with General Sloper's Warrant, and the necessary Papers, and they have been requested to deliver their Opinions on the several points therein referred to

323 We have learned with great Concern that the ill state of Health of your Commander in Chief on the Coast of Coromandel rendering him unequal to the fatigues of his Department and particular Duty, he proposes to return to Europe in the course of the ensuing Season Notice of this

Intention was communicated by his Secretary to the Commander in Chief of your Forces and by him to us. We have sent our assurances to Sir John Dalling that, if the ill state of his Health should ultimately oblige him to proceed to Europe, we shall agreeably to his request direct one of our Ships to call at Fort St George for the Conveyance of himself and family to England, and recommended it to the President and Council to defray the expence of his Passage

324. His Majesty's 23rd Regiment of Light Dragoons being much in want of Horses and as we deemed it of much Consequence that this Regiment should be kept up so as to be always fit for actual and effective Service we have taken upon us the expence of recruiting it upon the same Terms as were allowed to the late Sir John Burgoyne and which we deem very reasonable

325 In your General Letter of the 21st September 1785 Par 11 you have been pleased to direct not only that the Pay and Allowances of all the Minor Cadets at present on our Establishment be discontinued from the receipt of your Orders but you expressly forbid any such appointment in future observing that whenever we wish to Interest ourselves for the Sons of deserving Officers our recommendation of them to the Court will be properly attended to.

326 The Pay and Allowances of all Minor Cadets a List of whom is enclosed have been stopped agreeably to your Commands.

327 The first Instance of Minors being appointed Cadets was in May 1770 during the Government of Mr Cartier who appointed Cadets and Ensigns. The first Cadet appointed under this description was Mr Robert Williams Son of D Andrew Williams Surgeon Major the next were Messrs Samuel and Charles Hampton Sons of Colonel Hampton and Mr Charles Gibson the Son of a Person not in the Company's Service. This mode of provision for Minors Chiefly the Sons of Officers formed itself gradually into an Institution but without any public Declaration of it for a considerable Time. The several Members of the Council from year to year concurred in recommending Children for this provision but the application of Minor was not annexed to the appointment until the year 1779 A Regulation passed in August 1777 respecting the mode of drawing their Pay seems to be the first record formally acknowledged but it was a most grateful Provision for the Sons of Officers and a comfortable consideration to those who had behaved gallantly in your Service The Case of those who under the faith and Sanction of Government pledged in the above Declaration have been sent to Europe and educated solely for the Company's Military Service seem to merit your particular Attention Two Sons of the late Coll. Hampton Two of the late Mr Hessman and one of Doctor Williams arrived at Calcutta in the Course of this Season and are now in Consequence of your Orders prevented from carrying Arms and entering your Service We resolved on the 13th May 1782 that none but the legitimate Children of Officers should in future be appointed Minor Cadets.

328. The Situation of the Minor Cadets has become so unfortunate as well to themselves as to their Parents in Consequence of your late orders that we cannot help recommending to you in the strongest Terms that the Minor Cadets be provided for as Cadets before any other Persons

329. At the request of Lieutt Read Barrack Master at Burhanpore we beg leave to recommend to you that his Son Henry Peach Read may be appointed to the List of Minor Cadets

330. Our Advices from the Secret Department in the Course of the last Season will have communicated to you the Measures which we adopted for the Liquidation of the Arrears due to your Armies, as well under this Government as under the Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay, and we now beg Leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for a Detail of our Correspondence on this Subject with the Presidency of Fort St George since the last Dispatch

331. A Mutiny which broke out among some of the Native Troops employed to the Southward reduced the Gentlemen at Fort St George to the necessity of deviating in some Measure from the Plan which we had prescribed to them by discharging the Current Arrears in full previous to the liquidation of the Certificates granted to the Sepoys before the 31st of August 1784 They remarked however "that it was some satisfaction to them to find that as the Sepoys received the whole of their Current Arrears, they were in a better Situation than they would have experienced had no Deviation from our Arrangement taken place"

332. On a reference to the Proceedings of the Madras Government of the 8th and 17th March which accompanied their Letter of the 24th March to which we have referred, it appeared that Proposals had been made to them by Messrs Porcher and Redhead and Mr Menzies to open offices at Fort St George for discounting at a rate not higher than 30 P Cent, the Bills to be drawn on Bengal in Liquidation of the Arrears due to the Officers of the Army on that Establishment, which we had pledged ourselves to Discharge in Preference to all other Demands at the Expiration of Eight Months from the first of January last, and that these Proposals had received the Sanction of Government We deemed this Measure to be of a Tendency so alarming and so deprecating to the Company's Credit that we thought it necessary at the Suggestion of our Accountant General to refer the whole subject to the Advocate General and to require his Opinion in respect to the Legality of the rate of Discount which Messrs Porcher and Redhead and Mr Menzies were authorized to Demand, as well as the steps which should be taken for the Prosecution of those who might have entered into such Engagements upon the Statutes passed for the suppression of Usury, and what Constitutional Measures could be adopted by Government for the Suppression of Usurious Practices

Secret and Political Consns 24th April and 16th May Secret and Military Consns 23rd June and 24th July

Consn 24th April Secret Dept

Appenx to Consn. 24th April Secret Dept

333 The Advocate General's Opinion on this Reference is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin. It states that the Engagements entered into by Messrs Porcher and Redhead and Mr Menzies were not of a nature to subject them to the Penalty of the Statutes as the Purchasers of the Bills could not Demand Payment from the Discounters if they should not be paid when due or even if they should never be paid at all. He further gave it as his opinion that whilst Natives are exempt from the Penalty of the Statutes against Usury the suppression of it by Law would be impracticable and that the only effectual Method of putting a stop to it would be by removing the Cause (which he apprehended to be the necessity the Servants and other Dependants of the Company who have no other support were under of selling their Certificates) in as far as the state of the Treasury would admit.

334 The Accountant General's Letters of the 13th and 18th April on this Subject merits your Consideration. They are recorded on our Proceedings of the 24th April.

335 As it appeared from the Proposals which were made by Mr Porcher to the Madras Government that the Rate of Exchange at which it was supposed the Bills would be paid Vizt Cr 415 12 9 P 100 Pagodas must have influenced the offer made by him and probably also by Mr Menzies we thought it reasonable that the Bills which might be issued to these Gentlemen should be paid at the rate at which it appears that they expected they would be discharged but at the same Time deeming it only just that the Arrears of Pay due to the Company's Troops serving in the Carnatic should be paid at the rate at which the Advances were made in Bengal to the King's Paymaster we directed the Gentlemen at Fort St George to grant other Bills to such Subalterns and others as may be under the necessity of negotiating their Certificates on these Disadvantageous Terms for the Difference between the Value in Current Rupees of the number of Pagodas for which their Certificates were granted at the Exchange of ARs. 410 Pr 100 Pagodas and CRs 415 12.9 the rate at which it was supposed they would be paid.

336 The President and Council of Fort St George have lately stated to us in very clear Terms in a Letter dated the 5th July to which we beg Leave to refer the Difficulties with which the Accomplishment of our Wishes was surrounded. We have therefore at their suggestion abandoned our Original Idea in regard to the Compensation which was proposed to be made to Officers and others who had been under the necessity of Discounting and resolved that such Bills only as did not appear to have been discounted and are to be received by the Agents of those in whose Favor they were drawn should be paid at the Exchange of 410 ARs. Pr hundred Pagodas that all these Bills should be paid on the 2d September that being the Day on which they would become due according to our Original Intention that all other Bills of Exchange drawn on Account of Military Arrears of the Madras Government should be discharged at the Rate of CRs. 415.12.9 Pr hundred Pagodas, and

Consn. 24th July
Sect. and Milly
Dept.

when they became due agreeably to the Form by which they were drawn

337 Having on the 27th December last accepted an offer made to us by the Proprietors of the Bengal Bank to register and liquidate the Bills to be drawn on us by the Presidencies of Fort St George and Bombay on account of Military Arrears we directed on the 16th of May last that the Holders of such Bills should tender them to be registered at the Bank after they should be checked at the Accountant General's Office and included on the Amount of Demands on the Treasury.

338 From the Accounts which have just been received from the Bengal Bank it appears that the Amount to be discharged on the 2d of next Month on this account is CRs 8,46,916.2 4.

339 The Exchange which we have resolved to allow to the Original Proprietors of Madras Certificates to be exchanged for Bengal Bonds is ARs 410 P % Pagodas and the same Exchange is to be allowed to the Purchasers of these Certificates who will engage to make good to the Original Proprietors if required to do so the Difference between their value at this Exchange and at the Exchange of CRs. 415 12 9 P hundred Pagodas

340 Purchasers of Certificates who will not enter into these Engagements are to receive Bonds at the latter exchange only

341 The Interest of these Bonds if paid in England is to be paid at the Exchange of seven Shillings and four Pence Pr Star Pagoda.

342 Your President and Council at Bombay, altho' strongly urged to it, have as yet been unable to send us any Account of the Amount of their Military Arrears, or have any Bills or Certificates on account of them been yet presented from that Presidency

343 They have informed us that they can have no Prospect of being able to raise Funds for any Part of the investment which was to be provided to discharge the Interest on the Arrear Bonds in England, while they have not Funds sufficient for their Current Charges and that, even if this obstacle were removed, the Embargo laid on by Tippoo would (unless it should be taken off) prevent them from dispatching a Ship to Europe

Military Department of Inspection

344 You will observe by our Proceedings of the 31st May in the Political Department that Lieutenant Colonel Kyd is appointed Secretary to the Military Department of Inspection, which is a Branch of this Office His Establishment is as follows

Allowance to himself as Secretary	. 1,500 Rs	P Mensem
Deputy Secretary	. . . 300	Do.
1 Assistant	.. .. . 200	Do.
1 Examiner	.. .. . 200	Do.
6 Monthly Writers,		
3 at 150 each	} . . . 750	
3 at 100		

4 Peons at 5 each
Contingencies of Office as occasion
may require

20

Rs. 2 970

345 We transmit to you a Number in the Packet Copy of a Memorial addressed to us by Ensign Thomas Cowley respecting Rank. As Ensign Cowley's Case appears very hard and deserving your attention we beg Leave to recommend it to your special Notice and early Decision on it.

Reforms

346 We have the Honor to transmit to you our Proceedings in the Secret Department of Inspection and Reform from the 22d March to the 2d Instant. An Index accompanies them. We also transmit herewith a Duplicate of our Letter to your Hon ble Court Dated 24th of March

347 With that Letter we forwarded to you a copy of a Minute delivered by the Commander in Chief respecting the Gratuities to be given to the Native Commissioned Officers belonging to the two Independent Regiments at Ramgur and Chittagong ordered to be reduced and to the nine Jemadars reduced from each Regiment of Sepoys proposing also that the Establishment of Supernumeraries at Mongeer should be discontinued

348 We determined that the Native Commissioned Officers belonging to the two independent Regiments above-mentioned and the nine Jemadars reduced from each Regiment of Sepoys, should receive a Gratuity of three Months Pay and the Batta of their Stations as was the Practice in 1773 We resolved also that those Native Commissioned Officers, and the reduced Non Commissioned Officers of the two Independent Regiments should have waste Lands allotted to them and that the Committee of Revenue should report where the Lands could be most conveniently given to them. With respect to those of the Ramgur and Chittagong Regiments we ordered that Lands should be allotted to them as near as possible to the Stations to which they had been respectively attached. As the nine Jemadars reduced from each Regiment of Sepoys had not been attached to any fixed Station the rule of allotting lands near those Stations could not apply with respect to them altho they would benefit equally with the rest in having their Proportion.

349 We resolved that the reduced Native Commissioned and Non Commissioned Officers should have the same Proportion of Waste Lands allotted to them respectively as were given of Lands under the Collector of Baugulpoor to the Invalid Native Officers Vizt.

To a Soubahdar	200 Begas
Jemadar	100
Harildar	60
Nafok	50

350 The Lands are not to be resumed on the death of the Commissioned or non Commissioned Officer, but it is to be left to the Option of his Family to receive a perpetual Grant of them at a Moderate fixed Rent to be determined by the Collector

351 Our Consultation of the 29th March exhibits the Number of Native Commissioned and Non Commissioned Officers Consn. 29th March for whom Lands are to be provided.

352 Altho' the Native Commissioned and Non Commissioned Officers reduced by our resolutions of the 14th and 22nd March would be discharged from the Service on their Reduction, the Commander in Chief is not precluded from appointing deserving Officers of their Number to the Service again, if he should judge proper, when they may desire to enter into it, and to fill the ranks which they held when they were disbanded

353 We resolved on the 30th of January that a Provision should be made for the Lascais who were reduced by our reforms of that Period by appropriating to them uncultivated Lands near the River, and we directed the Committee of revenue to report to us what Quantity could be obtained for that Purpose

354 The Committee appointed Mr Thomas Graham one of their Members to communicate with the Lascars on the Provision proposed to be made for them in Waste Lands, and to report the result Mr. Graham reported that the Lascais were unanimous in declaring that they would rather relinquish all Claim to the Indulgence proposed for them than receive Lands any where but in, or near to, the Districts of their Nativity

355 In Consequence of this and other Parts of the Committee's report we agreed that uncultivated Lands should be given to the reduced Lascais where the Lascars had requested them, and that such Quantity should be allotted to their respective ranks as should, in its future Estimated produce, be equal to Half the amount of the Pay and Batta received by them We also agreed that all those who wear the Honorary Medal given to them by Government in Testimony of their Services in the late War should have an additional Quantity of Land equal in value to the Monthly gratuity of one Rupee, and, that the Lascars might be assisted in bringing the Lands into Cultivation, we left it to the Committee to make them such reasonable Advance or Takavy as we might judge their respective Ranks and Circumstances to require.

356 The Commander in Chief having acquainted us that one hundred Lascais, with their Officers, were returned at Chunar, and that the Reduction of these ought to have been comprehended in our late Regulations, we gave orders for its taking Place, and the Committee of Revenue were advised that Waste Lands were to be provided for these Lascais in the same manner and in the same Proportions as for those formerly disbanded

357 The District of Rotas being situated nearest to the Station at which the Chunar Lascais were to be disbanded, the Committee directed

the Collector of Rotas to provide Waste Lands for them according to our Instruction.

358 We passed a General Resolution that before the Disbanded Lascars should receive Possession of the Waste Lands assigned to them they should yield to the Condition of never quitting those lands except on the Service of the Company and be acquainted that should they quit them except on the Service the Lands should be immediately resumed.

359 The Commander in Chief having informed us that there was not only more than a sufficient number of Artificers attached to the Magazine in Chunar Ghor but that there was an Establishment of Artificers and Labourers attached to the Train also and composed of nearly the same description of Artificers as those attached to the Magazine while there was hardly any Train of Artillery at the Station we concurred in the General's Proposition that the Establishment of Artificers attached to the Train at Chunar Ghor should be struck off.

360 As the recruiting of the Corps of Foreign Rangers was expensive and the Desertions considerable we determined at the recommendation of the Commander in Chief that the Establishment of this Corps should be permitted to fall off that the Contracts should not be renewed with the Men after the Period for which they were actually engaged and that the President and Council at Fort St. George should be desired not to entertain more Deserters for Service in the Bengal Army

361 In our General Letter of the 24th of March we communicated to your Honble Court the Establishment of Officers which appeared to the Commander in Chief to be absolutely *necessary* to its force at that Period and what was deemed a proper *Temporary* Establishment of Officers for the several Corps until we should come to a further determination on the subject. By these Arrangements the Officers then in Command of Regiments whether receiving or not receiving the Pay of their ranks were not to be removed from their Commands during the existence of the Temporary Establishment but as vacancies occurred the Commands of the Battalions were not to be given to Majors on Major's Pay but to Majors on Captain's Pay as far as their number should go and to Senior Captains as might be judged proper It being the wish of the Board to revert as soon as possible to the Provisions in the necessary Establishment respecting the Commands of Sepoy Battalions, the Commander in Chief proposed and we agreed that the nine Senior Majors of Infantry on Major's Pay and then serving with the European Corps or Commanding Sepoy Regiments or Battalions should be posted as follows Three to the European Regiments 1 to each Regiment Six to the Sepoy Corps of the 3 Brigades 2 to each Corps We also resolved

362 That the other Majors of Infantry on Major's Pay and then Commanding Sepoy Regiments or Battalions should be placed on the List of Supernumeraries unless they should prefer remaining in their present Commands on the Pay Bat's and Allowances of Captains.

363 And that such Majors of Infantry on Major's Pay as were not

then posted should be placed for the present on the List of Supernumeraries

364. We agreed that Lieutt Colonels should be left for the present as they were posted, and that we should not in this Instant revert immediately to the necessary Establishment There would have been some little saving of Expence by reverting to it, but we imagined that there could be no impropriety in leaving good Men for some Time longer in Command to which they had been but very lately appointed.

365 The Commander in Chief proposed, and we agreed to, an Encrease in the Establishment of Bullocks allotted to the Army, the actual Establishment being insufficient by forty upon the nearest Mode possible to be adopted, so as to enable regiments to move when required, and to leave at some of the Stations a few for the necessary Services The General laid before us at the same Time a return of the distribution of Bullocks for nineteen Battalions and five Stations, on which return the encrease of forty was desired, and he observed that, if Bullocks were wanted for the Works of Fort William or Barrackpore, they must necessarily be extra

366 The Commander in Chief remarked to us that the System which he wished to have adopted in the Military Line during Peace, was that the Military Establishment should be as small as the safety of the Company's Possessions would admit, and that the existing Force in every Part of it should be internally fit for immediate Service

367 We refer you to our Proceedings of the 4th April for the Perusal of a Representation made us by the Secretary to the Board of Ordnance, on the Subject of the Establishment allowed him for Writers and all other Contingencies Vizt Sa Rs 200 P Mensem, which he stated would, with the utmost Oeconomy, only pay three Native Writers, besides the Servants absolutely requisite for an Office, and with these he observed that the Business of the Secretary's Department alone was with the greatest Difficulty carried on, so that of the Accountant, which was of much more Consequence, was and must be entirely at a stand unless it should be the Pleasure of the Board to grant him some such additional Assistants as was stated in his Letter Vizt One European Assistant Accomptant, one Examiner, and Eight capable Native Writers

368 Having taken into Consideration the laborious Duties performed in the Office of Secretary and Accountant to the Board of Ordnance, as stated in his representation above alluded to, and in a Minute of the late Commissary General, which accompanied it, we agreed that the Secretary and Accountant to the Ordnance Department should be allowed to draw Monthly in a Contingent Bill for such Assistants as he might find indispensably necessary in his Office in Addition to the Establishment allowed for the Ordnance Department by the Company's Orders, provided the Expence did not exceed 750 Rupees P Mensem

369. Major Thomas Scott and Lewis Grant having submitted to us their Claims to an Allowance in lieu of Contingencies from his Excellency

the Nabob Vizier while on Service in his Excellency's Dominions in the years 1782 and 1783 and their Claims having been founded upon the same Principles as those of Majors Gilpin and Lumsdaine which had received Sanction in the Month of December 1784 we agreed that they should be admitted and paid at Luonow in the course of the next Fussulee year provided these Officers had drawn nothing on account of Contingencies either from the Vizier or the Company during the Period for which they claimed this allowance and Lieutenant Grand of the Artillery having preferred a Claim to us for Tent Allowance from the Vizier from the 1st Sept 1782 to the 31st December 1783 we resolved that this Charge also should be admitted provided it should appear that he had not drawn any Tent Allowance from the Vizier or the Company for that Period

370 On a Reference to the Military Paymaster General It was found that this Allowance had been drawn in Abstract by Captain Bruce Lientl Grand's Claim having Consequently been rejected he addressed us a second Time on the Subject and stated that Majors Gilpin and Lumsdaine with some Officers of their Detachment received the Indulgence of Tent Allowance from the Vizier at the same time that they drew it from the Company This Intimation did not however induce us to comply with Lieutenant Grand's request as it never had been our Intention that Contingencies or Tent Allowance should be paid both by the Vizier and the Company We have therefore resolved that Majors Gilpin and Lumsdaine and all other Officers who may have received their Allowances from both shall be called on to refund that which they drew last

371 The Judges of Supreme Court of Judicature having intimated to us that if the Reduction ordered by your Hon ble Court of the allowance for the temporary Establishment of Ministerial Offices under the sitting justice was carried into Execution they should be under the necessity of declining to execute the office of Justices of the Peace we have agreed that this allowance shall be continued until your Pleasure be known

372 In Consequence of the Resolution which we passed on the 11th March 1785 calling upon the Servants of the Company to deliver in their existing Claims upon Government by the 1st of May following certain Claims and Requests were laid before us by Mr John Bristow Mr Wm Cowper Mr Thos. Graham Mr Thos. Graham Administrator to the Estate of the late Alexander Duncanson Junior Messrs Petrie and Koble

373 Mr John Bristow in a Letter dated 30th April 1785 claimed the Salary and Allowances due to him from December 1776 until his Resignation of the Service in December 1777 as Resident at the Vizier's Court and Paymaster to the Troops under the Command of British Officers in the Vizier's Service. Mr Bristow referred in support of his Claim to the Board's records of the 2d Dec 1776 which would make it appear that he was not removed from the Office abovementioned according to the

See List of Civil
Retrenchments
accompanying Se-
perate General
Letter 11th April
1785

General Instructions of your Hon'ble Court dated 29th March 1784 which direct that, "before the removal of any Company's Servant from any Office, the Party accused be made acquainted with the accusations preferred against him, that he be summoned to make his Defence, having a reasonable Time allowed him for that purpose, and that the Governor General and Council proceed on all such Occasions with the greatest Tenderness and Circumspection". The order also directs that "all such Charges made before us against any of your Servants in our Department with all Proceedings thereon be regularly entered in our Consultations and with them transmitted to you".

374 Not deeming it proper to determine on Mr. Bristow's Claim abovementioned by our own Authority we agreed to state it to you and to recommend it to your favorable Consideration

375 Our Proceedings of the 5th April last, to which we beg leave to refer, take Notice of a Letter delivered in by Mr. Bristow on the 11th April 1785, and recorded in the Consultation of the 12th of that month It was agreed, upon the subject of this Letter, that Mr Bristow's Claims for allowances etc. prior to his recall from Lucnow in December 1783 should be preferred to the favorable Consideration of your Hon'ble Court, and that, if he would separate his Claims for that Period from those which had since arisen, he would be put on the same footing with other Gentlemen in similar Situations.

376 In Consequence of this Intimation Mr Bristow addressed us on the 16th May* with various Claims in Bills Nos 1 and 2 They are recorded on our Proceedings of the 22d of that Month

377 We could not admit the 1st and 2nd Charges made by Mr. Bristow in his Bill No 1 for the allowances of a Member of the late Provincial Councils from the 15th June 1781, until which Period he had charged his Salary as Resident at the Vizier's Court to the Month of October 1782, 1 Year, 3 Months and 15 days @ 1,000 Sa Rs P Month Sa Rs 15,500, as we did not consider his Situation to be similar to that of the Members of those Councils The Residency at Lucnow was not abolished at the Period for which the charge was made, tho' Mr Bristow was not serving in it The Residency at Lucnow having been withdrawn at the Period for which Mr Bristow made his third Claim in Bill No 1 for Sicca Rupees 13,000 we agreed to admit it

378 Upon the subject of Mr Bristow's Bill No 2 we agreed to pass it, if he had not drawn for the allowances therein claimed, and it conformed to the Establishment of his immediate Predecessor and Mr Charles Purling, and if allowances were paid to his Assistant Mr Bathurst, who took charge of the Office on Mr Bristow's recall

379 The next application that came before us was from Mr William Cowper It stated that "Upon his return to Bengal in October 1781, he was appointed by your Hon'ble Court first Assistant to the Resident at Owde, but the previous Arrangements at that Court not allowing of an

*19 May according to another copy

immediate Execution of those Orders in his behalf he remained at the Presidency and without Office of any kind until the end of the same Month in the following year that he was then nominated Mr Bristow's Deputy at Lnenow and acted in that Capacity until January 1784, when he again returned to Calcutta in Obedience to the Orders of the Board and so continued a second Time for the space of twelve Months or till February 1784 wholly unemployed that during both these Periods he was in the receipt only of the bare salary annexed to his rank as a Senior Merchant in the Company's Service unconnected with any Office Mr Cowper referred generally to Instances of Company's Servants exactly in his Predicament (Debarred of or removed from their allotted Offices on the Ground of public Expediency) who had been indulged by Government with suitable allowances until opportunity occurred of calling them again into Employment He would therefore only express his Hope that he should be held worthy of a like Indulgence and that we would favor him with our Authority to draw such Monthly Salary for the Periods therein above-mentioned as we might deem proper upon a Consideration of the Allowances now and heretofore granted to others in the same Situation and of the same rank with himself

380 We agreed that Mr Cowper's request for Allowances from October 1781 to November 1782 should be referred to your Honble Court, but taking into Consideration Mr Cowper's application for some Monthly Allowance from January 1784 to February 1785 during which Time he was out of Office we admitted the Justice of it and resolved that he should be allowed and paid in Certificates for that Period the same Monthly sum as was formerly allowed to the second Member of a Provincial Council not at the Presidency Vizt Rupees 900 for Salary and House Rent.

381 Mr Thomas Graham addressed us on the Subject of the Inadequacy of his Allowances when Persian Interpreter to the late Sir Eyre Coote He threw himself on the Justice and Indulgence of the Board for Compensating the Losses he had sustained in as far as putting him upon a footing with others employed in Services connected with and arising out of the War might contribute to that End

382 Having taken into Consideration Mr Graham's rank in your Service when he was employed by the late Sir Eyre Coote and the favorable Testimony given by that General of Mr Graham's Conduct sensible also that the sum of Rupees 472 which Mr Graham declared to be the only part of his allowances when serving at the Carnatia that he could apply to his own proper use must have been inadequate to his unavoidable Expences at a Period when every necessary of life was considerably dearer than at any other Time we resolved that Mr Graham as Persian Interpreter to the late Sir Eyre Coote should be allowed the difference between Captain's Pay and Double full Batta and the Pay and Double full Batta of a Lieutt. Colonel to be paid in Certificates for the Time for which he received allowances as Persian Interpreter which was from the 3d October 1780 to the End of April 1783

383 Mr. Graham, Administrator to the Estate of Alexander Duncanson Junior, late Paymaster to the Bombay Detachment, addressed us, setting forth the Claim of the Estate to allowances due at least until the latest Accounts were received of the safety of the Taptie, the Ship on which Mr Duncanson was going passenger to Surat to join the Bombay Detachment, if not until the Time at which a Successor was appointed Mr, Graham trusted that we would admit the Claim until the appointment of a Successor, the Deceased having fallen a Sacrifice to an eager Zeal to join the Troops upon Service at Bombay by proceeding from hence by Sea at the most inclement Season of the Year

384 We agreed that the Bills should be passed on Account of the late Mr. Duncanson's Estate for August, September, October and November 1779 when the latest Intelligence was received of the Ship in which he was proceeding to join the Bengal Detachment, if the same allowances had not been paid to a Paymaster of that Detachment for those Months, but it appearing on reference to the Military Paymaster General that they were drawn by Capt. Watherstone who then acted as Paymaster the Charge could not be admitted Mr Graham repeated the Demand, but we could not comply with it

385 An Application was made to us by Messrs Petrie and Keble desiring a Compensation for the loss they had sustained by a Purchase made in the year 1768 of some small Arms and Military Stores brought out by the Purser of the Kent as a part of his Investment, and afterwards seized near Serampore by the Phouzdar of Houghly in Consequence of an Order from Mr Verelst Several Circumstances relative to these Arms and Stores were mentioned by Messrs Petrie and Keble, whose Letter is dated the 20th of April 1785, and recorded on our Proceedings of the 5th of April 1786

386 Not deeming ourselves at Liberty to comply with this application we resolved to refer it to your Hon'ble Court.

387 We beg leave to refer you to our Consultation of the 5th of April last for the Perusal of a Letter addressed to us under Date the 25th July 1785 by Mr. Peter Moore, Attorney for Major James Webber, repeating an Application which he made to us on the 25th of April 1782 on the Subject of some Articles of Claims which were rejected by Mr Middleton, Resident at Lucnow, in the adjustment of the Major's Accounts with the Vizier for raising, maintaining, and accoutring a Regiment of Cavalry in the year 1776 Mr Moore's repetition of the Claim was owing to fresh Instructions which he had received from his Constituent, and which enabled him to lay the Case again before us with additional Arguments in its Support We resolved that Mr Moore's Claim on account of Major Webber should be referred to your Hon'ble Court for your Decision on it Mr Moore having proceeded to Europe, Mr R S Perreau, who became entrusted with Major Webber's Concerns, requested our reconsideration of his Case, submitting to us a Certificate from Mr Middleton, lately received, which might induce us to think that Major Webber's Claims

were not only justly founded by such as had the sanction of Precedent in a Letter from the Board to the Resident at the Vizier's Court dated the 14th July 1778 which gave Orders for the Payment of Claims of the very same nature and founded on the very same Pretensions Mr Perreau's Letter is dated the 8th of May and recorded in our Consultation of the 22d of that Month We did not think proper to make any alteration in our past Resolution for referring Major Wehber's Claim to your Decision

388 On the 1st February 1784 a Letter was addressed to our Secretary by Mr William Balfour of Fort St George transmitting, by Directions received from Major General Stuart before he left that Settlement a Book with Extracts of Letters explanatory of a Claim which the General had preferred to us before his Departure for Star Pagodas 9 867 19 9 being the Expence which he had incurred by laying in a Store of Rice for the Public Service at Pallacat in the course of the year 1782 and for which he had the Sanction of the late Lientt General Sir Eyre Coote

389 We transmitted a Copy of these Papers to your President and Council at Fort St George on the 5th April last and requested that we might be favored with their Opinion on the Justice of General Stuart's Claim that it might be sent by an early Dispatch to your Hon ble Court to whom we referred the subject very particularly in our General Letter from the Secret Department bearing date the 31st December 1783

390 Your President and Council at Fort St George have in Consequence forwarded to us Extracts from their Records on the subject of General Stuart's Demand and have acquainted us that altho it appears that the General proceeded without Authority from that Government in laying in a Store of Rice at Pallacat yet as they were unwilling to believe that he was actuated by any other Motives than those of forwarding the Public Service they hoped we would represent his Claim in a favorable manner to the Court of Directors

391 We certainly are of opinion that General Stuart's Claim is justly founded and we think moreover that he has a Considerable share of Merit in the Provision which he made for the Public Service from his own Funds, and at the Hazard of suffering the Loss which has hitherto accrued to him from it. We therefore presume to recommend his Case to your particular Notice and that the Compensation which the General has requested may be granted to him

392 A Letter was addressed to us by the Committee of Revenue on the 2d March 1786 acquainting us in Answer to our Orders for making a further Reduction in their Revenue Expences, of the Sum of Rupees 6 00,418 8 in order to bring them within the Amount prescribed by your Regulations of 11th April 1785 that on the 14th October 1785 they proposed reductions according to your Orders excepting Rupees 35,152 14 10.2 and at the same time pointed out Funds for such further Reductions as we might think proper to order and that without recurring [sic] to those Funds, they found it impossible to carry the order to make a further Reduction of Rupees 6 00 418 8 into Execution We referred this Representation

to the Revenue Department, from whence you will be advised of the Result

393 The Comptroller of the Salt Office having been informed by the Accountant General to the Revenue Department that he had been ordered to Audit both the Comptroller's Accounts and those of the Agents, Mr Vansittart entered into an Explanation of the Nature of those Accounts and proposed what appeared to him to be necessary Regulations for carrying our Order into Execution They are Recorded on our Proceedings of the 29th March

394. We approved the regulations recommended by Mr Vansittart, and Ordered that they should take place from the 1st October last, or the Commencement of the year 1192 B S and we directed the Comptroller to transmit annual Statements to the Accountant General to the Revenue Department containing a Comparison of the former Expences with the present Establishment and explaining the differences

395 Mr. Vansittart was directed on the 16th of January to furnish the Accountant General to the Revenue Department Monthly with an Estimate of the Sums that would probably be due to the Salt Agents for Commission after deducting the Amount which they were to pay to persons employed by them That he might be enabled to carry those Orders into Execution he submitted to us some Observations respecting the Settlement of the Commission for former years and the mode of receiving it for the present and future years

396 As the Agents who were removed from their Offices in 1783 were allowed the full Commission of that year (or 1189 B S) and at the Reduction which was made by Government in the Profits of the Comptroller and Agents in the Salt Department on the 1st March 1783 took place after a great part of the Salt of that year (1191 B S) was Manufactured and Sold, we were of Opinion that the Representation made on this Subject by the Comptroller was founded in Justice, and we Resolved that he and the Agents who were affected by the Resolutions, which took place from the 1st March 1785, should receive the full Commission for 1191 according to the Regulations of 29th December 1785, that is, the same Commission which they would have been entitled for that year if those Regulations had not passed

397 With respect to the present and future years Mr Vansittart proposed that the Comptroller should, at the beginning of the Salt year, deliver an Estimate of the annual Profit on the Salt and the Commission expected to be due to himself and the Agents, deducting one fourth to be reserved till the Settlement of the Accounts of that year, and dividing the remainder into Monthly Proportions to be received after the End of each Month He enclosed, as a specimen, the Estimate of 1192 B S or 1785/6 agreeably to which the Monthly proportions were to be received from the beginning of October last The amount to be received after Settlement of Accounts would be more or less as there might be an increase or decrease of the real Profit compared with the Estimate

398 We agreed to Mr Vansittart's Propositions, and approved the form of the Estimate alluded to in them

399 On the 24th April last we received a letter from several subscribers to the General Bank acquainting us that that Bank was declared Established, and that they were chosen Directors of it, and they requested our favorable consideration of the different objects of their Letters which were noticed to you in our General Advices of the 24th March The Letter was ordered to lie for consideration.

400 We have the Honor to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for a Letter addressed to us by the late President *Consd 24th April* and Council at Fort St George on the 20th March transmitting a List of the Bond Holders of that Presidency and a Report of the objections made to the Governor General's Plan for liquidating the Company's Bonded Debts in India. These were forwarded to us at our Express Requisition We think it unnecessary to make any Reply to these Objections

401 You will find recorded on our Proceedings of the 4th April last a Comparative Statement of the Marine Expences in the Naval Storekeeper's Department as well as that under Mr Kehle's Charge as Marine Paymaster Extracted from the Books in both Offices for the year 1776/7 and 1784/5 commencing each year on 1st May and ending on the 30th April following in each respective year in order to shew that they immediately corresponded with the Journals and Ledgers of each Department In our Proceedings of the same Day you will also find a List of the People and an Account of the Established Expences of the Marine Paymaster's Office on the 14th February 1780 laid before us by Mr Price

402 We furnished Mr Joseph Price the present Marine Paymaster with a Copy of the 22d Paragraph of your General Letter dated 11th April 1785 and directed him to report his Opinion to us of those Parts of the Marine Expence that would admit of the most practicable Reductions in order that your Commands might be carried into Execution as far as possible His Opinion has been delivered on the subject and we shall soon take it into particular Consideration.

403 Mr William Atkinson having declined to Act in the Office of Coroner upon the reduced Allowances given to it by your Orders of the 11th April 1785 we accepted his Resignation of it and appointed Mr Stephen Bagshaw to supply his Place

404 We have now communicated to you the Substance of our Proceedings in the Secret Department of Inspection prior for the most part to the Receipt of your Orders of the 21st Sept 1785 To these Orders we have already particularly replied but we think it necessary to acquaint you that just before our receipt of them we had with the assistance of the Commander in Chief nearly completed a Digest of Military Regulations which the Change of System advised in your Orders of the 21st September having made it necessary to correct in some material Points it is not in our power to transmit it to you by this Dispatch but we shall be careful to forward it by the next

405 We have the Pleasure to transmit to you a Number in this

Dispatch the beginning of a Work of great Importance prepared by Mr James Grant,⁸ formerly your Resident at Hyderabad, and entitled an Historical and Comparative Analysis of the Finances of the Soubah of Bengal from the Era of the Moghul conquest, under the Emperor Akbar, to the present Time, chronologically arranged in three periods, of which the two first are comprized in the accompanying Volume, and will exhibit a Summary view of the rise, progress, and extent of all the existing sources of Public income, belonging of right, or virtually transferred to the East India Company in form of the Dewanny grant in 1765, and still undoubtedly recoverable in their fullest extent, tho' perhaps not with the same rapid facility they were in that moment unfortunately lost to the State

406 The idea of reform suggested in the Analysis seems to be founded on the 39th Clause of the last regulating Act of Parliament, referring the determination of the rights of the Zamindars etc to the Laws and constitution of India, from which it is supposed that there have been considerable deviations in the practical Rules or forms of the Company's administration since the acquisition of the Dewanny, as set forth in the pretended grievances of the Land-holders, and now required to be redressed according to the established custom or civil institutions of the Moghul Empire

407 The grand object of reform besides the political advantage of re-establishing the equitable system of Moghul finance,⁹ on its simple original principles, goes to the realization of an additional revenue of two Krore of Rupees, not by any encrease of Assessment, or by new burthens on the People and country, but solely in the recovery of defalcations, and lost or hidden funds of Public income for the most part fraudulently withheld by several intermediate Native Agents employed by Government in collecting the yearly rents from the Ryots This great pecuniary benefit is to arise apparently from two Sources different in their nature and practicability of being brought forward, the one productive of seventy one Lacs, appears the readiest or easiest to be obtained, as originating in one simple operation of a reduced Jumma, or settlement, on the acquisition of the Dewanny, without competent authority, specification of Particulars, or any sufficient reasons being assigned to Warrant so large a diminution of the established income, the other of a Krore and twenty nine Lacs will undoubtedly be more difficult, because it has never been properly ascertained even under an arbitrary Mussulman Government, being minutely dispersed throughout the Country, and held under the sacred forms for the most part of religious or charitable donations, tho' in truth, as has often been represented, it consists altogether of unconstitutional or fraudulent alienations of the Sovereign's property But exclusive of these two productive sources of yearly supply, a third presents itself in the Analysis little short of fifty Lacs more arising from a retrenchment of the ordinary Mofussil expence in Native Agency, incurred since the year 1765, and for which it is pretended, if at all necessary, that there must have existed separate and sufficient funds for defraying it

408 The mode of attaining this object in conformity to what is considered the constructive spirit of the Act of Parliament, is simply recurring to the antient constitutional forms of the Moghul Empire to define the nature and sources of the Public income forms of management, amount collected with allowed Mofussil expenditure to enfranchise or appoint where deficient those Officers of Government called Canongoes Registers or Accomptants throughout all the Pergunnahs of the Subah free from that slavish dependance on Zamindars under which they have long since held and place both these classes of Native Agents under the Immediate and powerful controul of British Collectors. This seems to be the grand preparatory regulation thought necessary to attain the ultimate object of the Reform In the mean Time only a gradual and Systematic improvement of the revenue can be carried on at the conclusion of the annual Bundohust or Settlements made with the Zamindars, in proportion to the local intelligence and the vigour and virtue of Superintendants Since the Mutseddies of the Khalsa and Sadder have been exonerated from a trust of which they appear to have been unworthy the honour and entire responsibility of so important a charge fall of course as ought to have been the case from the beginning of British Administration on British Subjects covenanted Servants of the Company more especially the Collectors under the executive controul of the Board of Revenue It was apparently in the view of throwing some incidental lights on a subject hitherto represented as difficult through the misinformation of the Natives in the important moment of forming the Yearly Settlement that the author of the Analysis brought forward his work and declared himself ready to elucidate by further proofs or detail any particular parts that might be found to differ in stating the amount of established exchequer dues from the System actually in force and derived from the original agreement at the acquisition of the Dewanny

409 The Speedy discharge of the Arrears due to the Army which was the first object of your present Administration and to complete which our regulations of 20th December last were adopted prevented us from applying any considerable Sums to the discharge of Paper according to the principle established by our Regulations of the 20th December 1783 We were soon advised that the Madras Government had engaged with Messrs Porcher and Redhead and Mr Menzies to discount the Bills which we pledged ourselves to pay in the Course of 8 Months after date on Account of the Military Arrears of that Presidency at the extravagant Rate of 30 P Cent. Apprehensive that the Knowledge of this Circumstance would tend to carry the rate of Discount at which our Certificates had been negotiated still higher than it then was and as we found that the utmost advantage was taken of the necessity which many of the Servants and Dependants of this Government were subject to of selling their Certificates in order to procure the means of subsistence we deemed it necessary to adopt an Arrangement that seemed likely to remove this Evil and therefore on the 22d May 1783 having previously ascertained that the

Expectation which we had encouraged the Public to form of our ability to discharge the Paper in Circulation in the course of twelve Months after it had been issued, might nevertheless be fulfilled we resolved to permit all the Servants of the Company and the other Dependants of this Government receiving monthly not more than 1,000 Rupees to be paid wholly in Cash, and those receiving monthly above that sum to be paid half in Cash and half in Certificates, and we have the Pleasure to inform you that, altho' we have since issued 10/16 of the Contracts for the present years Investment in Certificates the Discount has fallen considerably and is now at 10 on Certificates and 24 on Bonds

410 This Regulation has been communicated by the Governor General to the Nabob Mobarek ul Dowla and his Principal Servants, and will, we trust, remove the discontent which they had expressed in Consequence of our former Regulation which provided that all the Payments to them should be made in Certificates

411. Having referred to the Advocate General for his Opinion whether Sir Elijah Impey was legally entitled during his Absence from Bengal to the Salary annexed to the Station of Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Judicature, he delivered his Opinion on the Subject which is recorded on our Proceedings of the 4th April 1786

412 In Consequence of your Approval of the Reductions which we had ordered to take Place in the Allowance for Moonshees to your Servants above the Rank of Factor, we have again taken off this Indulgence which we had resolved on the receipt of your Letter of the 11th April 1785

413 The 74th, 75th, 76th and 77th Paragraphs of your Separate General Letter dated the 21st September 1785 have been made public They have also been transmitted to the Buxey who has been directed to reduce the subsistence to your Servants out of Employ to the amount therein prescribed to the different Ranks calculating the Pound Sterling at the same Rate of Exchange at which the Governor General and Council receive their Salaries

414 The different Ranks of Company's Servants out of Employ will be paid as follows

Senior Merchants £ Stg 400 P Annum C Rs 1133 P% £ Stg C Rs 4,532 @ C Rs 377 10 8 P Mo or Sa Rs 325 9 2

Junior Merchants £ Stg 300 Do C Rs 1133 P Do Do 3,399 @ 283 4 Do or Sa Rs 244.2 11*

Factors or Writers £ Stg 200 P Do Do 1133 P Do Do 2,266 @ 188 13 4 Do or Sa Rs 162 12 7

415 Having in Compliance with the requisition contained in the 40th Section of the 25th Chapter of 24 George 3d directed Accounts of the Established Charges of this Government to be formed for the 31st January and 31st December 1785, and being desirous of transmitting as

soon as possible a Statement of the Reductions that took place in the Established Charges of the Army between 31st January 1785 and the arrival of the new Establishment we directed the Commissary General to prepare and lay before us as soon as possible a Statement of the Reductions that took place within the beforementioned Periods exhibiting first those that produced the Differences which may appear between the Amount of the Established Charges on the 31st January and those of 31st Decemr 1785 and next such subsequent Reductions as had been resolved upon before the arrival of the Establishment directed by your Hon ble Court stating the difference that may appear upon a Comparison of this with what was the Established Military Expence of this Government on there receipt of the new Establishment. We also called upon the Accountant General to the Revenue Department the Board of Trade and Marine Paymaster to prepare Statements of the Reductions that took place in their several Departments between the 31st Jany 1785 and 1st of May 1786 first exhibiting those that might appear between the amount of the Established Charges on the 31st Jany and those of 31st December 1785 and next between such subsequent Reductions as took place before the 1st May 1786 A Similar Order was sent to the Accountant General respecting the Reductions in the Civil Department and he was moreover directed to form a General Abstract Statement comprehending those of every Department This will be transmitted to you by the present Dispatch

416 We found it necessary to call upon the Military Paymaster General for an Explanation of the understated Difference to be made out with all possible Dispatch and submitted to us for the Information of your Hon ble Court It attends you a number in the Packet

417 The late Commissary General and the late Military Paymaster General stated in their joint Letter of the 27th May 1786 the expence of Commissioned Officers Surgeons and Staff of the Army and Commission on the Revenues to have been on the 1st February 1785 at 81 50 047

418 On the 29th September 1785 the late Military Paymaster General stated the *Lascars Artificers, Labourers Bullock Drivers* and all other Classes of Men attached to the Bengal Army on 1st February 1785 at 62,11,845 12.

419 The Total should seem to be the Amount of all the Established Military Expences of this Presidency on 1st Febry 1785 especially as the late Military Paymaster General in his Letter last quoted declared the Information then afforded to be what remained to complete the Information required by the 40th Clause of the last India regulating Act 1 43 68 792.12

420 Now it appears that altho the late Military Paymaster General on the 1st August 1786 stated the Reductions that took place in his Department between 31st January and the 1st May 1786 at

5 60,586 12,

This Deduct from the amount of the beforemen-
tioned Sums leave only 1,38,03,206 - -

421 Whereas the late Military Paymaster General
on the 1st August 1785 estimated the Established Military
Expence of this Establishment for the year 1785/6 at 1,73,47,974 - -

Difference 35,44,768 - -

422. We have on different occasions pointed out to you the Plan which was adopted by us in our resolutions of the 11th October/85 for the future Audit of the Contingent Charges of the Army, which, by being brought under our immediate Inspection, we had reason to believe might be best kept within the narrowest possible bounds. We have now the Pleasure to inform you that these expectations have been realized to the extent of our hopes, and indeed beyond what we had at first imagined, and we make no doubt that you will be sensible of the advantages of such a mode of Auditing the Contingent Charges when we acquaint you that the whole amount of the Disbursements of the Paymaster of Extraordinaires from the 1st of November/85 to the present Time which includes a period of near 10 Month has not exceeded Sa Rs 2,38,728-8-4 or upon an Average Sa. Rs 23,872-13-7 P Month, and this too at a Time when the general relief of the Army was taking place which must necessarily have created a considerable addition to the Contingent Charges of the Military Branch of your Service

423 We cannot hesitate in considering this Regulation as the most Oeconomical in its Consequences and effects that has ever been adopted by any of your Administrations in India. We need not explain to you the many advantages that arise from immediate Audits and Contingent Accounts, and the Checks established against improper Charges which your Servants are aware that the Contingencies of any month will undergo a final Examination by the Governor General and Council in the Month following

424 Our Proceedings shewing each Demand, and our Resolution on it prepared with the Assistance of the Commissary General place at once within your own view and within your easy Check this great source of Public Expence, a source of Expence the most ruinous because it has been unlimited and a Discretion must always be given to those by whom such Charges are incurred. We shall not enlarge more upon this interesting subject, but trust that your Hon'ble Court will allow it the attention it deserves. We propose to avail ourselves of the Opinions of the Military Board according to the 23rd Paragraph of your Separate General Letter dated 21st September 1785 ere we determine finally upon Charges of a Contingent Nature

425 Before we quit the general subject of Reform we wish to acquaint you that altho' truly sensible of the Wisdom and necessity of your Orders of the 11th April 1785 which limited your Expence in different Departments to specific Sums, we have been in some instances unable to

fulfill the Letter of your Instructions altho we have complied successfully with the spirit of them and in some Points beyond our most sanguine Expectations.

426 The Extraordinary realization of the Revenues of last year and the reductions which were effected in the Expences of Collection might be justly considered as in effect the best possible Execution of your Orders which directed that the Charges of Collection the Allowances to Zamindars the Expences for the Courts of Adawlet and the Stipends to the Naboh and his Ministers should not exceed the Sum of 72 Lacs Sicca Rupees

427 We shall have the Honor of forwarding to you by the Ranger now under Dispatch the Accounts required by the 40th Clause of the Act of Parliament of the 24th George the 3d by which it will appear that the Expence of the Civil Department amounts to the Annual Sum of CRs. 25 95 000 which exceeds the limited amount prescribed by your orders of the 11th April 1786 in the sum of CRs 5 95 000

428 We shall likewise have the honor to accompany this Account with a Comparative Statement of the Monthly Expence of the different Offices and Employes in the Civil Division of the General Department of the Bengal Government as it then stood on the 31st December 1785 and in May 1776 together with an Account of the Encreases and Decreases in each Head of Charges.

429 Tho your Orders of the 11th April 1785 were carried into immediate Execution with very little deviation from the positive Letter of them which Deviation was such as Circumstances rendered absolutely [unavoidable] yet the whole Amount of the Civil Charges of this Government could not be reduced within the sum to which they amounted in 1776 owing to some causes which render a Comparison incompatible.

430 The Principal Causes are the Encrease of Expence of the Supreme Court of Judicature which this Government had not the Power to controul about CRs 1 75 000

431 The encrease of Business in the different Offices which rendered an Increase of Expence absolutely unavoidable.

432 The Number of Company's Servants out of Employ to whom a subsistence was granted and which was no Charge to the Civil Establishment in 1776

433 The encrease of the Establishment at Benares incidental to the Change made by the late Governor General in its connection with this Government about CRs. 1 64 000 and we might add the Reduction of an heavy Charge of Civil Expenditure which might in Fact be stated as falling upon your Resources we mean the abolition of Pensions etc. in the Viziers Country which would of itself make a third of the Sum to which your Civil Charges have been limited

434 Our Exertions in this Line will we trust appear to you great and unremitted and we can assure your Hon ble Court that the severest Retrenchments have fallen on this Department of the Service and all our Effects [sic] to reduce them precisely to your Standard of Establishment

would be ineffectual, while the Expenses must necessarily exceed that in 1776 in the instances as have particularly pointed out, and in those mentioned in the Statement.

435. In regard to the Charges of your Marine which you have directed to be reduced to the annual Sum of Rupees 3,50,000 your Hon'ble Court will, we are persuaded, recollect that the Marine Contract which we cannot abolish, and which we believe cannot be brought within more reasonable Terms, employs at a certainty three Lacs of Rupees Pr Annum and there are many Marine Charges to be provided for independently of the Contract The necessity of keeping you regularly advised of the Occurrences of this Government and for transmitting to you in proper Time those very Statements which enabled you to ascertain and reduce your expences has forced us to dispatch frequent Packets to Bussorah and directly to Europe and the Support of your Establishments on the Coast of Sumatra as well as of the new Establishment which we have endeavored to acquire towards Malacca in the Spirit of your own Recommendation relative to another Island has necessarily increased our Marine Expenses But you may rest assured that every possible Oeconomy has been observed in this and the other Departments of your Service the Collective result of which Oeconomy your Hon'ble Court have the most fortunate Proof of in that part of our Letter from the Public Department which evinces beyond the Power of Contradiction that two Millions sterling have been applied in the Course of last year to provide Funds for your other Establishments in India and to discharge their Debts and to procure an Investment for Europe while the Comparative Deficiency in your Resources opposed to your Disbursements in the Account made up of the probable Amount of both closing in April 1787 is less by twenty six Lacs of Rupees than the Account closing in April last.

Fort William,
28th August 1786.
[Per *Tevern*]

We have the Honor to be &c a

LETTER DATED 28 AUGUST 1786

Sindia's anxiety to keep Shah Alam under his control

TO the Hon'ble the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble Court of Directors etc etc

Hon'ble Sus,

1. On the 28th of April last we had the Honor to receive your Commands of the 22d September 1785 Per Ship Talbot respecting the

Guntoor Circar and the Proposition which had been suggested of ceding all the Circars to the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn, on the Conditions refer'd to in our General Letter of the 17th January 1785 That there might be no Delay in attending to your Orders and that we might be enabled to enforce our Claims to the Guntoor Circar on the first favorable Occasion we directed your President and Council at Fort St George to inform us of the Amount of the Arrears of Peschush now due to Nizam Ally and to ascertain with as much Precision as possible what has been actually received by his Highness from the Guntoor since it has been under his Management The Commander in Chief has lately delivered it his opinion that, as Tippoo Sultan has possessed himself of Adoni it is absolutely necessary that we should immediately endeavour to prevail on the Nazim to put us in Possession of Guntoor which became the Positive Right of the Company upon the Death of Bazelet Jung The General is persuaded that if we do not avail ourselves of the present Crisis which he deems favorable to the object it will not be in the Power of Nizam Ally to restore the Circar at any future Period, because if it be not put into the Possession of the Company it will certainly be seized by Tippoo The Proposition of the Commander in Chief is so important as well in itself as in the Consequences that would follow our Adoption of it that we wish to consider the Subject very maturely ere we come to a Decision We enclose a Minute delivered in by the Governor General in Consequence of that from the Commander in Chief

2 With respect to our Opinion of the Policy of maintaining Diego Garcia We have the Honor to refer you to a Minute delivered in by the Governor General in which the objections to such a settlement are stated at large and as the necessity of withdrawing the Establishment kept up there at a very heavy expence to the Company appeared to us in every view very urgent we have directed that the Establishment be immediately recalled and that nothing be left there on the Part of the Company except the Instrument of Possession which will enable you at all Times to resettle in the Island if you should judge that measure either practical or proper

3 We have the Honor to transmit to you a Letter to his Britannic Majesty from the Prince Mirza Jewan Buckt and as Lieutt. Coll Harper has furnished the Governor General with a Copy of it we are enabled to forward to you a Translation of the Letter which is sent a Number in the Packet

4 The Governor General has lately received a Letter from Lieutt Anderson Resident with Mahajee Scindia bearing Date the 10th Instant in which he takes Notice of Scindia's anxiety for the Return of the King, and mentions that Some day early in the next Month is as he understands fixed for the King's Departure from Delhi We think it necessary to quote what Mr Anderson writes upon this subject The State of Scindia's Affairs naturally accounts for his anxiety for the Possession of the King in his Camp but I have heard that he has likewise some view of extorting from this unfortunate Monarch the Treasure which it is reported he has secretly

amassed This Idea, it is said, has been suggested to him by Shaw Nizama Dein, an infamous Wretch whom he [has ?] always employed as his Agent with the King, and who is entirely devoted to his Will in every thing This Intelligence has not been communicated to me in such a manner as to enable me to warrant its authenticity yet I must confess that it does not appear to me altogether void of probability It is a very common Idea that the King is in Possession of considerable sudden Treasure, and, tho' I have never thought that this Opinion was well founded, yet the general prevalency of it is sufficient ground for Sindia to proceed upon. It may also be observed, that altho' such a step would tend greatly to spoke the foundation of Scindia's power in this Quarter yet all his Conduct hitherto has been guided by a short sighted Policy which has led him eagerly to embrace every prospect of immediate Advantage without any Regard to the distant Consequences At present his Affairs wear so gloomy an aspect as makes him less anxious than ever about remote Consequences and more determined to seize at any Hazard whatever immediate Advantages may lay in his power''

We have the honor to be &ca

Fort William,
28 August 1786.
[Per *Ranger*]

LETTER DATED 11 NOVEMBER 1786

Gratuities—French relations—Cornwallis's clarifications of French agreement—Dutch and Danes—military and civil balances—cadets—military arrears—payment of King's troops—retrenchments and reforms

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon'ble Sirs

1. The advices from your Governor General and Council dated the 28th August, and transmitted by the Ranger, will acquaint you very fully with the detail of their Proceedings to that time, which with the allowance of a few days subsequent to it, may be considered as the period which closed the transactions of the Bengal Government under your late Administration, Earl Cornwallis having arrived on the 11th and received charge of the Government on the 12th September

Political

2. Soon after the receipt of your General Letters of the 14th March

and 20th April 1786 the several paragraphs that appertained to this Department were taken into Consideration. Those of the 14th March were the 12th 13th 14th, 15th 16th 17th 18th, 19th, 50th and 60th.

3 Para 12 Your favorable sentiments of the attachment and fidelity of the Naboh Fyze Ulla Khan to the Company were immediately communicated to him in the terms in which they were expressed and we shall not fail to pay due obedience to your orders respecting him

4. Para. 13 14 15 16 17 18 The instructions contained in the 14th Paragraph have been communicated to the Army in General Orders. We assure ourselves that the Commanding Officers of the Detachments marching thro the Zemundarry of Benares will be so careful in future to prevent any excesses in the conduct of their Men and the followers of the Camps that you will find no occasion to repeat your orders on this subject. When instances occur of any deviation from them particular enquiry shall be made into the Circumstances and punishment inflicted on those who deserve it

5 The Resident at Benares has been required to pay the strictest attention to your Commands in the 16th 17th and 18th Paragraphs of the Letter before us and we have furnished him with such Extracts and Papers as he has desired from our records to enable him to fulfill your pleasure with respect to the appointment of a person to reside at Mirzapore for the purpose of receiving the complaints of the Merchants and to report them to the Resident He has requested that until he shall be able to communicate to us the result of his Investigations of the present state of the Commerce of the Zemindarry and of its Imports and Exports particularising those of Mirzapore we will postpone the institution of this Office which was made he observes when the horror of famine and the Evils recited seemed to have pervaded that district which is now blessed with the prospect of most plentiful Crops from abundant and seasonable Rains as well as from increase of Population and Agriculture and the utmost care and unremitting attention to every object calculated to restore the prosperity of the Province

6 Para 59 Your dismissal of Major Browne from the Company's Service has been published in General Orders.

7 The paragraphs of your General Letter of the 12th April 1786 which were considered in this Department were the 22d 56th 57th 58th 59th 60th, 61st 62d, 63d 64th 65th and 102

8 Para 22 Your Hon ble Court may be assured that we shall pay implicit obedience to the resolution of the General Court of Proprietors which was notified in your General Letter of the 16th April 1777 and restricts the Governors and Councils of the respective Presidencies from making any presents to Servants in India without the Orders of the Court of Directors but we apprehend that it was not intended to embrace in this resolution the case of Gentlemen employed upon any particular service to which no Salary or allowance has been annexed and which on its faithful completion may entitle them to a reward for it is possible that temporary

duties may occur of such a nature that the merits of those who are employed on them cannot be estimated before they are accomplished, and on such occasions to wait the decision of the Court of Directors upon a reference from Bengal might, we presume to think, answer less the objects of reward than if it were conferred immediately on the spot where the Impression received of the Service that has been performed, and the local advantages obtained from it, may be generally deemed more strong than it might be at a distance of time and place In this Observation, however, we do not mean to include Largesses of great amount Probably it will appear to you immaterial in point of Expence whether a Servant is allowed a monthly Salary during the continuance of a particular Duty, or such total at the end of it as a reasonable monthly Salary would have amounted to It may be said, Indeed, in favor of Gratuities compared with monthly Salaries for temporary employments that some of your Servants might be induced, from a regard to the continuance of their Salaries to protract the completion of what they are engaged in, but if no Salaries were appointed would finish it with Dispatch in Expectation of the Gratuities to which their Superiors might then consider them entitled.

9 Pars 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63 These Paragraphs contain your Instructions to us in respect to the Nabob at Ferrockabad A few days before they arrived representations came to the late Administration from your Resident at Ferrockabad, which shewed a necessity for some definitive arrangements in respect to that Country, and as the Resident was soon expected in Calcutta we agreed that the measures proper to be taken in consequence of your Orders should wait his Arrival, which we have hastened by our instructions to him to proceed hither as quickly as he can without Injury or inconvenience to his Public Duty

10 Paras 64, 65 The Secretary has been directed to lay before us all the Letters received from Captain Donald Campbell and written to him, in respect to his claim for travelling Charges and Expences incurred by him in the Company's Service from January 1783 to May 1784, that the propriety of his claims may be determined on and his Account adjusted

11 Para 162 Your Hon'ble Court may be assured that due attention shall be paid to the Instructions contained in this paragraph

12 We shall transmit to the Secret Committee of your Hon'ble Court the Consultations in our Political Department which are to be forwarded by the Swallow, and we shall lay before them a narrative of the transactions recorded in it since the date of our last dispatch We confess that this is a deviation from the usual form and mode of address but as many parts of our Political Proceedings are upon subjects of Secrecy, and connected with Orders received or proper to be expected from the Secret Committee, we hope to be justified to you for allowing it until your pleasure shall direct us to discontinue it,

Foreign

13 We have the Honor to transmit to you by the Swallow our proceedings in this Department from the 17th Augt to which date they were forwarded by the Ranger to the 30th ulto inclusive with their Index

French

14 Our Proceedings of the 20th September contain a Letter from Mr Cossigny the Governor General of Pondicherry in which he acknowledges the receipt of the Copy we had sent him of the Provisional Convention settled at the Isle of France between Monsr Le Vicompte De Souillac and Lieut Colonel Cathcart and acquaints us that he lost no time in sending it to the Commanders and Agents of the French Settlements and Factories with orders to them to conform to it

15 In the 157th Paragraph of the General Letter by the Ranger your Hon ble Court were informed that the resolution passed on the 3d of Merch to exempt the merchandize of the French East India Company from the payment of the Company's Duties¹ in Calcutta could remain in force until specially revoked This Indulgence became the greater as the fourth Article of the Provisional Convention gave us the fairest occasion to do it away In the next paragraph of our General Letter you were informed of a representation that had been received from several Merchants and Inhabitants of Calcutta petitioning against the continuance of this Indulgence or that the Duties paid by them might be levelled to the amount paid by the French Company A Copy of that Representation was sent a number in the Ranger's Packet and will be found on our proceedings of the 17th August

Cens.
17th Augt

16 When this representation was received several Minutes were delivered on it by the Members of the Council the result of which directed that the Indulgence granted to the French Company should be revoked But in consequence of the desire of the late Governor General who wished that the Board's resolution might not be carried into effect until certain statements of Duties required from the Board of Revenue had been delivered in the resolution was postponed

17 These statements were soon afterwards received you will find them recorded on our proceedings of the 6th September under the following Heads

Statement of Duties of the Hon ble Company's Custom House from the first of Jan'y 1781 to the 31st December 1785 being five Years Abstract Collections of Government Customs House Calcutta for five Years from May 1781 to April 1786 Statement of Duties Collected and Charges of Collection at the several Custom Houses in the Three Provinces from 1st May 1781/2 to 30th April 1785/6

18 These statements having come under the Board's consideration during the absence of two Members of the Council whose opinions had not

accorded with that of the late Governor General upon the exemptions granted to the French Company, nothing more passed upon the receipt of them than an observation of the Board, that the statements did not shew separately what had been collected from the Company's Ships, and what from the Ships of British Subjects, and that the Collections from the Foreign Nations respectively were not marked, so that if the Board wished to determine from which of the Foreign Settlements, the Calcutta or Government Duties were most benefited, it would not be in their Power. This remark was communicated to the Board of Revenue with orders to have the defect corrected in future.

19. After the Arrival of Lord Cornwallis the resolution passed for revoking the exemption granted to the French Company came regularly before the Board, when the several Letters and Minutes appertaining to the Question were read and considered. The Governor General did not hesitate to deliver his opinion that, as the exemption of the 4 P Cent duty in Calcutta granted to the French East India Company was in no degree connected with the late convention made with Monsr de Souillac, it should be immediately annulled. That by delaying the recall of this exemption we might give the French just cause of complaint if, encouraged by it, they were in the mean time to make purchases or expensive Establishments, and that in justice to the British and Native Merchants it was impossible to continue a privilege which might soon give to the French East India Company a monopoly of the Internal Trade of this place. It was therefore Resolved in the terms of Mr Stuart's Minute of the 14th Recorded on the 17th August "that the concessions made to the new French Company of a Commercial House in the Center of this Metropolis, and of immunity from the former established Municipal duties be immediately abrogated and Annulled"

20 This resolution having been communicated to the Agents of the French Company, their reply to it, which was by no means uncivil, gave us an opportunity of acquainting them that the resolution we had passed was not occasioned by any disregard or unfriendly consideration to the Interests of French Company, whose Commerce on the contrary we desired to encourage, as well as that of his Most Christian Majesty's other Subjects, and that we should be pleased with proper opportunities of manifesting our intention to it. That the resolution was a Consequence of a representation made by the British Merchants of Calcutta, who complained of the exemptions granted to the French Company as hurtful to the Interest of British Subjects. That we observed with satisfaction that, in revoking what had been allowed for a few months to the Commerce of the French Company, we only revoked a privilege which was deemed by the Agents immaterial, and that we had much pleasure in complying with their desire, that the House which they had hired in Calcutta might be continued to them.

21. A Representation having been made by Mr Dangereux against Mr. Beanland at Santipore for having taken from the Weavers a quantity

of Cloths which he deemed to be his property but were claimed by a
 Consn. 6th Octor Mr Vialard we referred it to your Board of Trade who
 delivered their opinion that Mr Beanland's answer to it
 was fully satisfactory with regard to his Conduct

22. We thought it necessary to make a second reference to the con-
 sideration of the Board of Trade whether Mr Beanland's answer did not
 furnish the French Agent with grounds of complaint against this Govern-
 ment as he acknowledged his having seized two pieces of Cloth from two
 men who had received advances from him for making part of the Com-
 pany's Investment and his having marked in the Loom 51 other pieces
 which were [in] making for Individuals by Weavers who had also received
 advances that they might be brought to the Factory when finished
 altho he was uncertain whether or not any part of these 51 pieces belonged
 to Mr Vialard, we wished that these pieces of Cloths which had been
 seized by Mr Beanland might be given up if Mr Vialard could prove them
 to be his property and if they could be restored without injury to the rights
 of the Company and to the Superior Control which they ought to have
 over the Weavers employed in their Service

23 The Board of Trade in their reply to this second refer-
 ence again justified Mr Beanland's conduct upon the
 Consn. 6th Octor Ground of the existing regulations of Government and
 Mr Dangereux was of course informed of the result of the enquiry that
 was made concerning the conduct of Mr Beanland in the instance
 complained of

24 A place being to be choosen where the Salt should be delivered
 that was imported by the French in consequence of the
 Consn. 9th Augt. tenth Article of the provisional Convention the Station of
 Ishera was fixed upon by Mr Dangereux and the late Comptroller of the
 Salt Departmt for this purpose

25 On your Governor General's arrival in Bengal there were
 several points in reference to the Board upon Claims of the French
 Agent and the conduct of the French Chief at Dacca we shall state
 them to you as they appear recorded in our proceedings of the 13th
 October when the subjects were investigated with much care and
 attention

26 1st Whether the French were or were not entitled to the privilege
 of hoisting Flags at Malda and Chittagong and indeed at
 Consns. 31st Jany any places where they have settled or may settle for the
 9th March purposes of Trade
 9th August
 6th Sept
 13th Octr

27 2d Whether when the Board resolved on the 9th August, that
 the French should be permitted to hold the Gunge at
 Consn. Norendy in the Town of Dacca Duty free It was intended
 9th Augt. that the exception should be confined to Gungo and
 13th Octr Buzar Duties or extend to Goods importing into and
 Exporting from the Gunge

28. 3d Whether the French were to retain possession of the Factory and Ground at Serampore made over by Mr Day, the English Revenue Chief at Dacca to Mr D'Ayot the French Chief, but contended for by Mr Wroughton, the Collector of Belluah, and denied to be their right by Mirza Jehan, the Grandson and Heir of the Talookdar, who first gave Ground to the French in the Neighbourhood of that now claimed
- Consns.
8th Decr. 1785
31st Jany 1786
9th March
14th March
24th April
9th Augt
6th Septr
13th Octr
- 29 4th Whether Mr Foley Collector of Beerboom was or was not to deliver over Soopore which is in that District, and such dependencies to Soopore as are stated by the French Agent to belong to the King of France
- Consns
31st Jany
9th March
24th April
9th Augt
6th Septr
13th & 20th Octr

30 Our several Consultations which contain either papers or proceedings upon the subjects of the Questions above stated, are noted in the Margin opposite to the Questions to which they respectively belong, and we beg leave to refer you to them for more particular informations than can properly be conveyed to you within the compass of our General Advices

31 Having taken into consideration the first claim in reference to us relative to Flags, we had Evidence which we deemed incontestible that the French had no right to hoist a Flag at Malda or Chittagong before the last War

32 We admit that an Interpretation favorable to the views of the French may be given to the Letter of the 19th Article of the provisional Convention, which states that all the Inhabitants, whether Europeans or Natives of the French Establishments, Factories and Houses of Commerce as well as the Territory annexed to them shall be under the protection of the French Flag and subject to the French Jurisdiction Indeed Lieutenant Young who accompanied Lieutt Colonel Cathcart, as his Secretary to the Isle of France, and was called upon for his opinion of the right of French to hoist their Flag at the Different Factories, and at places where they may not have had a Flag before, and to give his explanation of the sense in which Lieutt Colonel Cathcart and himself conceived the 19th Article of the Convention in this respect, delivered his opinion that the French had an equal right to hoist their Flag in all parts of this Country where they may have a Public Establishment and Jurisdiction altho' he observes that the right in question, was never *formally* mentioned in any stage of the Negotiation by Monsr De Souillac or by Lieutt Colonel Cathcart, the first appearing to consider it as no ways liable to doubt, and the latter judging it to be a matter that could never rise into importance but by being noticed and discussed But as we were of a different opinion, and conceived that the 19th Article of the Convention might be interpreted with equal weight, so as to render its provision more consonant

Consn
6th Septr

to the British Interests by considering it generally and as not obliging the permission of Flags at every French Establishment Factory and House of Commerce while the Flag hoisted at certain fixed places may have a wide operation in their proper Influence and protect the Commerce of the other places we deemed ourselves at liberty to adopt this Interpretation of the Article until your pleasure should be known and in so doing we considered ourselves as acting within Bounds and as fully justified

Consn. especially on a comparison of our conduct with that of
6th Septm the French Agent who in his Letter to the late Governor General bearing date the 2d Septemr and recorded on the proceedings of the 8th when he adverts to the 17th Article of the Convention made at the Isle of France which Article refers to the 7th of the regulations therein mentioned declares that the object of the said regulation is of moment and that the French can not at any time submit to the condition included in it and be moreover proposes a practice which deviates from that regulation

33 Having duly considered the pernicious effects to the Company's Interests and Authority which might arise from any new power granted to the French Nation to hoist Flags not only at their licensed Factories but at their Houses of Commerce and wherever their Agents or Gomastahs are or may be for the purposes of Trade, We thought it necessary to resolve that the Flag of his most Christian Majesty should be hoisted only at the five original Factories belonging to the French at Chandernagore, Dacca Patna Cossimbuzar and Ballasore and at that Factory which they have been permitted to Establish in lieu of Jugdea That the Houses of Trade and other Agencies such as those at Soopore Kerpooy Canicola, Mohunpore Serampore Chittagong and Malda etc should be considered as subordinate to the said original Factories, and that a Flag should not be permitted to be hoisted at any of them

34 The Commissary was therefore directed to request the French Agent in the name of this Government to issue orders to the Chiefs and Agents of his Nation to discontinue the use of hoisting the Flag of his most Christian Majesty except where they were permitted to be hoisted by these resolutions. Mr Dangereux was likewise acquainted that our Chiefs and Residents both Revenue and Commercial had been apprized of our resolutions and that we were persuaded that his early attention to our wishes would make it unnecessary for the Servants of the English Company to use any Authority in giving effect to them this indeed being an extremity which we particularly wished to avoid and would avoid as long as could be reasonably expected and Mr Dangereux was also assured that we desired most studiously to act in conformity to the 13th Article of the last Treaty of Peace and to the Convention lately concluded at the Isle of France and that no request which we could consistently grant for the advancement of the French Commerce would either be checked or refused by this Government which would be ready to use its influence in favor of that Commerce on all fair and proper occasions.

35 So desirous have the French appeared of hoisting Flags that their Gomastah at Malda not only hoisted one there against our permission but was in the practice of having one carried before him and his Agents when they travelled into the Country for the purpose of collecting Cloths, and even Cloths woven with the advances made to the Weavers from the English Factory

36. The 2d point under consideration was whether, when the Board resolved on the 9th August that the French should be permitted to hold the Gunge at Norendy in the town of Dacca, duty free, it was intended that the exemption should be confined to Gunge and Buzar Duties or extend to Goods importing into and exporting from that Gunge

37 We were persuaded that the French themselves could never have supposed that the latter construction could be put upon the Licence given to them in respect to Norendy Gunge It would be unreasonable to imagine that in the Heart of the town of Dacca advantages should be given to Traders under the protection of the French Government, or availing themselves of it, which could not be enjoyed by British Subjects The question was to be answered at the first moment of consideration and we determined that the exemption with respect to duties at Norendy Gunge was intended to be confined to Gunge and Buzar Duties only

38. The Board of Revenue were informed accordingly, and if any Question should arise between the English and French Chiefs at Dacca on the subject, the English Chief it was hoped would be able to satisfy the French Chief that his claim to more was unreasonable in itself and could not be attended to

39 The 3d point under consideration was whether the French were to retain possession of the Factory and Ground at Serampore made over by Mr Day, the English Revenue Chief at Dacca, to Monsr D'Ayot the French Chief, but contended for by Mr Wroughton, the Collector of Belluah, and denied to be their right by Merza Jehan the Grandson and Heir of the Talookdar, who first gave ground to the French in the Neighbourhood of that now claimed

40 It appeared that shortly after Mr Wilton's Mission to Chander-nagore, Mr Dangereux the French Agent, deputed Mr Champigny as Commissary to Dacca, to take possession of their Factory and its dependencies, and that thro' this Person's intrigue with a French Dewan he obtained a knowledge that the French had formerly bleached Linnen on [this] Ground at Serampore That he tried by every means to prove a right to this Ground, and wrote on the subject to Mr Dangereux who for the first time claimed it, that Mr Day was desired to investigate the matter, and sent Aumeens for that purpose That by a Collusion between the Aumeen and Monsr. Champigny, it was believed that the inconsiderable property of the French was very much encreased, and that Mr Day unadvisedly gave up more than the French had a right to That the People complained, Disturbances ensued, insolent Letters from Mr Champigny were daily received, and to so great a height of dispute were the Quarrels,

52 The 4th point under consideration related to Soopore with respect to which it was resolved that as Mr Nicolas had declared the dependencies to that place to be

To the North of Soopore	Gualparah
To the N West	Allonde
To the Eastward	Elimbazad
To the S.S East	Patorcha
To the Southward	Monnopore
To the Westward	Bottobody

they should be delivered over to Monar Chambon, the French Chief appointed to that Factory under condition however of their being vacated in the event of a disapproval at home of the Convention at large or of the 19th Article thereof if it should be found upon clear Testimony that the places which compose those said dependencies do not properly belong to the French Nation.

53 We did not suppose any Question before us relative to Chittagong, as we had already decided that the French should not be permitted to hoist a Flag there and because it was determined on the 9th of August that Independent of the evidence adduced by Mr Croftes the late Chief to prove that Ground claimed by the French at that place was never given or ceded to them it could not be given as Mr Nicolas had not even mentioned such Possession But as Mr Dangereux in his Letter of the 31st August observed that if we persisted in requiring other Titles than those he could produce to the Land we disputed at Chittagong he could give Orders to the French Agent to buy another Piece of Ground in the Town we deemed it necessary to declare that we did not judge it expedient to grant him Permission to do so

54 And in this Place we think it proper to remark that if a Right be admitted in the French or consent given to their holding or purchasing whatever Land they may be able to obtain either by Hire or otherwise from the Zemindars of the Country the Case may eventually happen that while it continues the object of Government as it ever must to confine the French to certain Limits they may at length acquire such a Command of Territory and such an Influence in the three Provinces as will tend to over rule the Company's authority and reduce the Country to the power of France

55 Very soon after the resolution which we have stated to you were passed we received a Letter from Mr Dangereux dated the 15th of October containing a Requisition from that Gentleman in the name of his most Christian Majesty of Prompt and Exemplary Justice in Reparation for an Insult offered by Mr Foley Collector of Beerboom to the Flag of his most Christian Majesty hoisted at Soopore

56 About the same time a Letter was received from Mr Foley acquainting the Board of revenue that Mr Chambon had hoisted the Flag of his Nation at Soopore and as that place had not been yet made

over to him, Mr Foley found himself under the necessity of removing it

57 Having duly considered Mr. Dangereux's Complaint We directed our Commissary to acquaint him that earnestly as we were disposed to redress any Public Grievance which was a subject of Remonstrance from the French Agent and to render satisfaction upon all proper occasions We could not yet consider Mr Foley as in fault for the Conduct which he had observed at Soopore with respect to the French Flag, because we thought and had no doubt that upon reconsideration it would appear to Mr Dangereux himself that whether the French were or were not to have permission to hoist a Flag at Soopore, a Flag ought not to have been hoisted until the French Possessions had been actually delivered over at that place, which had not happened when the Flag was hoisted by Mr. Chambon.

58 We found reason in Mr. Dangereux's Letter to desire Mr. Wilton to inform the French Agent also that the Board would be much pleased if his Representations to them were conceived in terms less strong than those which he had usually permitted in his Correspondence with this Government and which were particularly apparent in the Letter before us That a mild and moderate Relation of Circumstances was best suited to Official Intercourse and that Mr. Dangereux might be assured that this Board would be no less cautious of the terms in which their Communications were made to him than prompt up on all Occasions to do that Justice which he had a right to expect in case of well founded Complaint against any subject of the British Nation.

59 Mr D'Ayot in a Letter which he wrote to Mr. Dangereux having Complained that Mr. Williams the Collector of Government
 Consn Customs at Dacca contested the Circulation of the French
 13th October Chief's Dustucks we desired the Board of Revenue to enquire particularly into the Circumstances of this Representation and to direct Mr. Williams's strict adherence to the late Convention We acquainted them also that if any doubts should arise relative to the Construction to be put on any part of it we should be ready to decide on References made to us but we wished their Officers to be generally instructed not to throw unnecessary obstructions in the way of the French Trade but to facilitate it as far as they could do so with propriety and thus in a great degree prevent Complaints which the French Agents appear disposed to make even upon the most trivial Occasion

60 A Letter having been addressed to the Revenue Chief at Patna by the French Chief Monsieur Panor in which he desires Privileges said to have been formerly enjoyed by the French Nation in Shawabad and other parts of Bahar in the Provision of their Cloths We have desired the Board of Trade to make early Enquiry into the Rights of the French in this respect and report the Result of them to us together with their Opinion on the propriety or impropriety of complying with the Application altho' the right may not exist which the French Claim We have likewise enclosed to them a Paper received from the French Agent in which Complaint

is made of the Conduct of Mr Grant the Commercial Resident at Maulda We have desired that a Copy of it might be sent to Mr Grant and that he should be desired to reply to it

61 On the 30th Ultimo we took into Consideration a request contained in a Letter from Mr Dangereux to Mr Macpherson dated the 2nd September wherein he expresses his Wish that some Deviation should be permitted from the Rule laid down in the 7th Article of the Regulations for the Buxhunder which is alluded to in the 7th Article of the Provisional Convention and confirmed by it.

62 Desirous of accommodating all Points of Discussion between us and the French Agent where we deem ourselves at liberty so as to give him satisfaction we declared ourselves willing to relinquish for a time the Right established to us by the Provisional Convention in so far as regards the Importation of Provisions into Chandernagore by agreeing that during the Continuance of that Convention Boats laden with Grain or other Provisions arriving at the Custom House Chokies under the Protection of a French Dustomek accompanied by an Invoice in the Bengal Language should not be subject to the penalty stipulated in the 11th Article of the Buxhunder Regulations but detained until the Bengal Invoice should have been countersigned by Mr Dangereux or a French Invoice substituted in its place.

63 We have issued the necessary Orders in Consequence of this Resolution and assure ourselves that they will be properly attended to

64 We transmit to you a Number in the Packet Translation of a Letter which we have lately received from Mr Dangereux in reply to our Resolutions of the 13th October which have been communicated to you at large in this address and in Reply to that which we passed concerning Mr Foley's Conduct at Soopore in taking down the French Flag We transmit to you also our Answer to this Letter and request your particular attention to both

65 As Mr Dangereux has required of us to correspond immediately with him in future the Governor General submitted to the Board whether the Continuance of Mr Wilton's Office would be any longer necessary His Lordship was of Opinion that it should be continued as it now stands and that all the Correspondence between this Government and Foreign Nations should be communicated to Mr Wilton that he might have the means of constant Information in his Power and be able to assist the Council in all Points of reference or Discussion His Lordship further observed that the Succession of new Members as well as the Variety of Subjects constantly before the Board pointed out the necessity of leaving to the undivided Attention of one Person Affairs of so much Importance and he had the Satisfaction to add that the Zeal ability and Assiduity shewn by Mr Wilton in discharging the Trust reposed in him particularly recommended him for the Continuance of this Trust. We entirely concurred in Opinion with the Governor General and resolved on the continuance of Mr Wilton's Office for the reason which his Lordship stated

66. A Letter is recorded on our Proceedings of the 13th Ultimo from Mr. J.B. Fortier stating in general terms the Losses he has sustained by the Capture of the Sophia and Essex Prizes not legally declared and the arrest of his Person at the Commencement of the late War under particular Circumstances which he has also represented to us and requesting Reimbursement Mr Fortier has been acquainted in answer to his Memorial that the loss which he has represented himself to have sustained by the Capture of his Person and Property in the War with France cannot be considered in the Light of Grievances for which he has any legal Title to demand Redress from this Government but as Calamities to which the individual Subjects of contending Nations must ever be exposed to during the Continuance of a War

Dutch

67 In our General Letter by the Ranger (Paragraph 182) we mentioned a Representation that had been made by the Director and Council at Chinsurah of some Obstacles which they had met with from our Agents in procuring their Investment at the Aurungs of Chanderconno, Keerpoy, Radnagore, etc which we had referred to the Board of Trade with Instructions to afford them such Redress if the Complaints were well founded as might be just and proper

68 The Board of Trade did in Consequence transmit to the Contractors for Keerpoy and Soonamookey such Parts of the
 Consn
 6th October Representation as appeared to relate to their Contract requiring their immediate and particular Answer upon the Points therein stated and in the mean Time enjoining them most sedulously to refrain from every species of Obstruction to the Trade of Foreigners that might afford them just Occasion of Complaint

69. The Answers made by the Contractors were transmitted to us by the Board of Trade and will be found on our Proceedings of the 6th Ultimo We forwarded them to the Director and Council at Chinsura and expressed our Hope that the Facts and Arguments they contained would prove to their Satisfaction that the Charges had been without Foundation

70 The Directors and Council at Chinsurah having represented that they had not received the annual Quantity of Saltpetre
 Consn.
 20th Septembr agreed to be allowed to the Dutch for the year 1785, and requested the same Supply of Maunds 23,000 for the Year 1786, the Board of Trade were desired to issue the necessary Orders for the Delivery of both The Answer which they received from the Commercial Chief at Patna showed that there had been no want of Readiness on his Part in the Delivery of the Supply for 1785, but that the delay was entirely owing to the Dutch Agents

71 Lieutenant V Dubois an Officer in your Service charged with having committed Murder in Company with another Officer at a Village called Hoseepore on the Banks of the Gundree having taken Refuge at

Chinsurah and desired leave to proceed to Europe in a Dutch Ship Lord Cornwallis took means to ascertain whether if application were made to the Director the Lieutenant would be given up This being communicated to Mr Jitsiog he had no Difficulty in acquainting the Governor General that he should never afford the least Protection to Persons under this Description and that if his Lordship should wish to reclaim Lientenant V Dubois he on his Part could find no Reasons to object to his Delivery

72 A Letter was therefore written to the Director at Chinsurah acknowledging his liberal Attention to the Prosecution of Public Justice in the Case of Lieutenant Dubois and requesting the Surrender of this Officer's Person which was immediately given up The Officer is now under Arrest and will take his Trial at the next Assizes as you will be informed from the Military Department

Danes

73 In our General Letter by the Ranger (Paragraphs 183 184 185) you were informed of the Complaints and Representations made to us by Mr Duntzfelt deputed to us from the Chief and Council at Fredericksnagore relative to the present Mode of collecting the Government Duties on the Danish Trade of our Reference thereof to the Board of Revenue and their answer to it which was communicated to Mr Duntzfelt. His Reply to the Board of Trade's Assertions is entered on our Proceedings of the 6th September wherein he also claims for the Danish Nation the same Indulgence as has been granted to the French respecting the Importation of Salt We hoped that our Answer to this Letter which declared our Resolution to abide by the Information sent us from the Board of Revenue of the Regulations that were in use at the Buxbunder for the Collection of the Government Duties before the Establishment of the late Board of Customs unless he could state to us more authentic Accounts and our Confirmation of the Answer made to Mr Duntzfelt's former application for leave to import Salt (as mentioned in our last General Letter Paragraph 185) would have nearly closed the Correspondence on the Subjects of his Deputation But we were disappointed and Mr Duntzfelt transmitted to us a Copy of the Regulations which he wished us to adopt in the Collection of the Duties We have referred them to the Board of Revenue whose Report will enable us to judge whether we can with Propriety agree to them or not

74 The Chief and Council at Fredericksnagore having seconded Mr Duntzfelt's application for Permission to the Danes to import Salt into Bengal we assured them that we had every wish to promote the Trade and Interests of his Danish Majesty's Subject and that we should yield a ready obedience to any Orders we might receive from our Superiors in Europe to grant them the License they desired

Consn.
6th Sept

Consn.
13th October

75 An Application was made to us by Mr J L. Gotting of Fredericksnagore for a Supply of some Cash to enable him to make a Packa Road between that Place and Chandernagore We referred it to the Board of Revenue whose opinion being that the Place did not promise any such advantages as might make it eligible for the Company in their present Circumstances to promote it by pecuniary Aid our Secretary has acquainted Mr. Gotting that his Request cannot be complied with.

Consn
6th Septemr

Consn
25th October.

Portuguese

76. Your Honourable Court may be assured that we shall pay due attention to the Instructions contained in the 55 Paragraph of your General Letter 12th April 1786 respecting Mr. Lewis Da Costa.

Military

77 We transmit to you the Broken Sett of our Proceedings upon Military Subjects commencing with the 22d August and ending with the 30th Ultimo Their Index accompanies them

78 Since the date of our last Advices by the Ranger we have been honored with your Commands of the 12th April We now beg leave to reply to such Parts of them as have a Relation to this Branch of the Secret Department

79 Para 27 This Paragraph has been published in General Orders

80 Para. 52 The first Report of the Committee appointed to examine the old Balances upon the Books of the Military Department has been delivered in. A Copy of it now attends you a Number in the Packet You will observe that it relates solely to the Desperate Debts amounting to Current Rupees 17,63,718-9-4 the whole of which we have authorized the Military Paymaster General to transfer to the Head of Desperate Debts in the Books of his Office. The Committee are apprehensive that in the Course of their Investigation they shall be under the necessity of making a second Report upon Desperate Debts but they cannot yet determine how soon it will be ready for our Consideration They have made Considerable Progress in the Examination of the Balances that are doubtful as well as those that are good or arise only from the Want of proper adjustments and hope to bring these Parts of their Business also to a speedy Conclusion

Consn.
5th Sept.

81 The Gentlemen who were nominated to investigate the Outstanding Balances in the Civil Department having been removed from Calcutta soon after their Appointment we believe no Progress has been made in this Work but we have lately appointed Messrs Harding

Farquharson and Cotton three of your Covenanted Servants to examine and Report upon the Balances due to the Company in every Department not Military and have allowed them a Salary of 300 Rupees a Month each while employed in this laborious Occupation.

82. Paragraphs 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 In Consequence of your former Orders on the Subject of the Provisions of Draught and Carriage Bullocks for the Use of your Troops on this Establishment and Victualling the European Part of the Army Proposals for performing these Services were advertised for on the 30th of August 1785 and a Contract for the same was resolved to be given to Sir Charles William Blunt On the Terms of that Contract the Service is now supplied It commenced on the 1st of December 1785 and was to last for one or three Years at our Option Sir Charles Blunt's Proposals and the Minutes accepting them did not state that the Contract should continue for two Years after the 1st December 1788 unless Notice of the Contrary were given to the Contractor but in the Draft of the Contract prepared by the Company's Attorney (it being deemed necessary that some Provision should be made to this Effect) it was proposed that the Contract should be extended to the 1st December 1788 unless Notice should be given in Writing to Sir Charles Blunt within nine Months after its Commencement that it should cease and determine on the 1st December 1788

83 As the Period of nine Months from the Commencement of the Contract had elapsed before the Draft of it came under our final Consideration we determined to inform Sir Charles Blunt of our Intention to give him Notice that his Contracts with the Company would cease and determine in three Months after the 1st of next December

84 Sir Charles Blunt has since addressed a Letter to us Copy of which attends you a Number in the Packet representing that by his Proposals which were accepted his Contract was to be subject to the same Regulations Checks and Contracts as were expressed in the former Contract and he conceives that by receiving no Notice of the Intention of Government of its being to cease on the 1st December 1788 he might reasonably expect to hold it to the 1st day of December 1788 no reasonable Objection being made to the Terms of It which were acknowledged to be moderate

85 Sir Charles Blunt's address to us was also accompanied by very honorable Testimonies from Major General Stibbert Colonels Ironside and Sir John Cumming and Major Hill of the good state of the Cattle during his late Agency and the Advocate General to whom we referred the Question of Law reported that there could be no doubt that if the Draft of the Contract had been executed in Time the Board would not have had an Option of dissolving it in three Months from the 1st of December next nor before the 1st of December 1788

86. Under these Circumstances and as it did not become us to take Advantage of an Omission of Form or Delay of Execution which could be

attributed to no Fault in Sir Charles Blunt we have (in Conformity to an Opinion expressed by the Governor General) acquiesced in the application made by Sir Charles Blunt that his Contract should be continued to the 1st December 1788

87 Lord Cornwallis has taken up this Contract as he found it and allowed its extension for the reasons already stated but his Lordship's Determination is immoveable not to grant new Contracts but to the fairest Bidder with responsible Securities and in Consequence of public Advertizement

88. The Contract for Elephants which is now held by Mr. Ramus expiring on the 31st Decembei next and as it appeared to us that considerable Advantages might be derived to the Service from admitting a certain Proportion of Camels into it under the new Engagement as being better Calculated for the Movement of small Detachments we have resolved that the Service shall be performed henceforward by 200 Elephants and 75 Camels the Distribution of which shall at all Time be subject to the Pleasure of the Board or Commander in Chief

89. We request your Attention to the Advertisement which we have issued for Proposals for the Performance of the Service
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 11th October now under the Management of Mr Ramus. It attends you a Number in the Packet and is recorded on our Proceedings of the 11th Ultimo.

90 As we have agreed to the Recommendation of the Commissary General to extend the Contract to a Period of three Years we must express our Hope that the Arguments which he has used to induce our Assent to this Departure from your General Instructions will impress themselves as forcibly on your Minds as they have on ours and will afford convincing Proof that the present Contract cannot be executed on such Advantageous Terms to the Company on any other Footing They are chiefly founded upon the Species of Cattle which the Contract is to provide for and the few Means which the Contractor can have to dispose of them again on the Expiration of it these being considerations that must unavoidably expose him to the necessity of requiring such Terms from the Company as may secure him from the Risk and Hazard of losing a large Proportion of the Capital he must invest in the Purchase of the Cattle if he is liable to have the whole stock thrown upon his Hands at the End of so short a Time as one Year without a ready and probable Sale for them which to Persons acquainted with this Country and the little Demand there is for Camels or Elephants must be apparent

91. While upon this Subject it may not be improper to recall your attention to the Engagements which the Governor General and Council resolved to enter into in January last with Mr Whitwell for providing and feeding Elephants for the use of the Company during three Years for the Purpose of affording Carriage to the camp Equipage of the Officers of the Sepoy Corps

92 Our Proceedings of the 5th September contain an Address to

us on the Subject of this Engagement from the Advocate General with several Queries relating to them which he stated it to be necessary for the Board to reply to before he could give his approval of the Draft of the Contract Submitted to him for that Purpose by the Company's Attorney The same Proceedings to which we also beg leave to refer contain the Replies to the Advocate General's Questions given by Mr Macpherson and General Sloper the only Members of Government who were then present in Calcutta Mr Stables and Mr Stuart having been absent on the River to meet the Right Hon ble Earl Cornwallis whose arrival was hourly expected

93 Having thought it expedient to require the Commissary General to lay before us a Detail of the Checks to which the Accounts of Mr Whitwell should be made liable in Conformity to the usage in other Contracts his Reply to our Orders in this Subject is recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th October He delivered a report stating that a very Considerable saving of Expence might be derived from such a Reduction in the Number of the Cattle as the present Constitution of the Sepoy Corps on the new Establishment would admit of and we accordingly resolved in Conformity to his Recommendation that the Number of Cattle to be kept up by Mr Whitwell should be 72 Elephants and 72 Camels instead of 139 Elephants as resolved on the 10th of January last that they should all be ready at Berhampore by the 1st of February but that Mr Whitwell must provide the means of moving the Corps at the different Stations of the Army until the several Proportions of Cattle arrive there that the Regulations regarding their Inspection should be the same as in Mr Ramus's Contract that the Distribution of them should be subject to the Pleasure of the Board or Commander in Chief that they should be mustered as other Cattle and only allowed for the respective Periods that they should appear on the Returns to be effective and Serviceable that Retrenchments from the Bills of one Month were to be made from those next Demandable after the former Accounts should have gone thro the Commissary General's Office that all deficient should be supplied by the Contractor within certain fixed Periods and under a stipulated Penalty for nonperformance that the Advance to be made to the Contractor should be only equivalent to the Contract Charge for 96 Elephants for Six Months Viz 84 Rupees 48 000 and that as Mr Whitwell had already received in Advance Sicca rupees 63 000 the Difference must be deducted from his first Month's Bill until the whole Sum of 21,500 Rupees should be accounted for and he would then be answerable to the Company at the Expiration of his Contract for the Repayment of the advances of 48 000 Sicca rupees only

94 These Resolutions were declared to be adopted by us unless Mr Whitwell should make any sufficient and Satisfactory Objections to the Alterations which they would introduce into the Terms of his Engagements and having been communicated to Mr Whitwell he has informed us that he can only object to them in the following Instances,

Ist That as the principal Part of the Elephants which he has purchased were engaged to begin their March on the 1st November (the earliest Period at which they could move after the Rains) and might probably not arrive at Berhampore till the 1st of February he could not engage to tender them for Inspection at the different Stations of the Army till after that Time and therefore requested that the Inspection might take Place on their arrival at Berhampore

2nd That the Period of two Months allowed for supplying any Deficiency under the Number of ten Elephants was too short and he therefore requested that it might be extended to four Months the time proposed to be allowed for supplying a Deficiency of twenty as the nature of his Engagement made it his Interest to supply every Deficiency as soon as possible

95 These objections are yet to receive our Determination on them

96 We now return to your Commands of the 12th April the 79, 80, 81, 83, 84, 86, 87, and 166 Paragraphs of which have been published in General Orders to the Army The Death of Mr Francis Phillips rendered the Publication of the 85 Paragraph unnecessary. A Copy of the 166 Paragraph has been transmitted to Lieutenant General Sloper with the Letter addressed to him by your Hon'ble Court and the Instructions contained in the 168 Paragraph have been communicated to the Military Paymaster General

97. Having on the 20th Ultimo taken the 84 and 86 Paragraphs into our Consideration in the Military Department of Inspection we found that they would not only be productive of much Embarrassment from the various Representations which they would probably give rise to from Persons interested in our Decision on them if published without any Declaration of the Sense which we entertained of their true Meaning but also of much Trouble and Disappointment to those who might be led to form Hopes of an Encrease of Rank from putting perhaps an Improper Interpretation upon them It became therefore necessary to determine whether the 84 Paragraph was meant to entail any retrospective View of Alteration in the Rank of Cadets appointed in Europe now Subaltern Officers from the Year 1779 to the present Period or whether it was intended only to convey Directions for our future Guidance in the Mode of adjusting the Rank of Cadets hereafter to be appointed by you

98 Had we resolved this Question in the affirmative it would not only have unhinged the Rank of every Officer appointed from the Year 1779 to the present Period but have established a similar retrospective operation for every Officer appointed in the Army for these ten Years past the same principle having uniformly established the Rank of every Officer since the receipt of your Orders of the 3d March 1785 Connecting these Considerations with your subsequent Directions in the 86 Paragraph of your Letter of the 12th of April last wherein you generally direct that no alteration may take place in the List of the Army in Consequence of the various Claims referred to you by this Board on the Subject of Rank as

preferred by Officers consequent to the general Arrangement of Rank which had been made by this Government in the Receipt of your Instructions of 3d December 1785 We have been led to resolve that no alteration shall be made in the List of the Army in Consequence of your present Orders above referred to and take the Liberty to request that your future General Lists of Cadets to be sent out to India may be accompanied by clear and explicit Instructions on this Subject for our Guidance

99 In the 290 Paragraph of our General Letter dated the 28th August last we had the Honor to acquaint you that the Military Paymaster General had been directed to lose no Time in the Investigation and Adjustment of the Claim made upon the Company by the Executors of the Will of the late Captain Henry Spellman Mr Henchman's Report in Consequence of the Orders above referred to attends you a Number in the Packet The Information which he has been able to obtain has been very imperfect The Subject is intricate and perplexed and it will require more Consideration than we have yet been able to devote to it before we can determine whether the Bill of Captain Spellman's Executors shall be admitted against the Company in whole or in part and with or without Interest. When these points shall have been decided the Paymaster General will finally close the Account Current and report to us what Sum remains due to the Estate of Captain Spellman

100 We beg leave to refer to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for the Perusal of a Letter received from the President and Council at Fort Saint George under date the 11th of June last accompanied by statements of the Batta Claims of the Officers etc. and of the European Non Commissioned and Privates who suffered Imprisonment under the Nabobs Hyder Ally Cawn and Tippoo Sultan agreeably to the Resolutions of your Governor General and Council in their favor of the 14th November 1785 As it appeared that a Strict adherence to the Letter of our Instructions of that date would not only occasion a Material Difference in the Quantity of Batta to be received by Individuals under similar Circumstances but absolutely exclude a Number of Meritorious Officers from partaking of the Indulgence in any Decree whatever we have agreed at the Recommendation of the President and Council at Fort Saint George that all the Officers coming under this Description shall be put upon an equal Footing and be allowed full Batta for the respective Periods of their Imprisonment

101 You are already fully informed of the Progress which has been made in the Completion of the late Governor General's Plan for the liquidation of the Arrears due to the Honble Company's Military Establishments under the Presidencies of Fort Saint George and Bombay and our Consultation of the 20th September contains a Statement of the Sum already drawn for in Certificates and Bills on this Account from Fort Saint George amounting to Pagodas 12 09,502-0-1 as well as an Estimate

(which however it is declared to be impossible to form with accuracy) of the amount that remains to be drawn and which is stated at 3,75,000 Pagodas besides 60,000 Pagodas due to the Field Officers for Arrears of Gratuity

102 The Madras Military Arrear Bills which have been paid in Specie at the Bengal Bank amount to Rupees 8,88,144-14-6 and the Balance in the Hands of the Bank of the advances made to them amounts to Rupees 11,847-0-5 which they are directed to repay into the General Treasury

103 Our Proceedings of the 2d October contain a Reference from the Accountant General with a Letter addressed to him by Messrs Fergusson and Fairlie desiring Information at what rate of Exchange they might receive Bills on the Hon'ble Court of Directors in Exchange for Madras Certificates for Military Arrears

104 As it appeared from the Tenor of this application that the Proprietors of the Certificates for the Madras Military Arrears which are to be exchanged for Bengal Bonds seemed to expect that they might have Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors for these Bonds upon the Terms prescribed in the General Letter of 15th September 1785, valuing the Current Rupees for which they are to be granted at 1s-8d and as a Compliance with this Expectation would subject the Company to the Payment of £ Stg 46-2-6 P% Pagodas which is more than they would have to pay were Bills granted upon them at the same rate of Exchange for the Principal as was engaged for the annual Interest if such Interest were received in Bills upon the Court of Directors payable One Year after Sight which being at 7s-4d P Star Pagoda would subject the Company to the Payment of no more than £36-13s-4d for every hundred Pagodas We could not allow this advantage to be taken if the rate of Exchange at which Remittances can now be made from Bengal to Madras, for altho' it may be reasonable that those who are to be paid in Bengal what they were entitled to have received at Madras should expect Payment of as much in Bengal as could enable them to realize at Madras what was there due to them the Agreement cannot be justly applied to determine what should be paid in England in discharge of the Obligation granted in Bengal for the Madras Military Arrears.

105 As in the late Governor General's Plan recorded upon the Proceedings of the Secret Department of 8th November 1785, it was declared that the Bills to be given for the Annual Interest of the Bonds granted for Military Arrears if taken in Bills of Exchange upon the Hon'ble Court of Directors should be drawn at the Exchange of 2s-3d P Current Rupee We were of Opinion that this could be deemed in Fairness to have applied only to such Bonds as it was then supposed might have been taken for the Military Arrears of this Presidency and that if we allowed the Bills to be granted either in discharge of the principal or of the Interest at the same rates of Exchange as those by which the other Presidencies were allowed to draw Bills when those drawn by this were

granted at the Exchange of 2s-1d P Current rupees. This Rule would afford the most liberal Construction which we could now assign to the late Governor Generals Instructions and altho it was with a view to prevent any advantage from being taken of the rate at which the Pagodas mentioned in the Madras Certificates were converted into Current Rupees that the form for the Bengal Bonds to be given in Exchange for these was directed to express as well the Number of Star Pagodas as that of the Current Rupees for which they were granted yet as this did not appear to have occurred to the Proprietors of these Bonds We were of Opinion and resolved that those who tendered them for Bills upon England should be informed that they could not be granted at a higher rate than 7s-4d P Star Pagoda which is upwards of 4½ P Cent upon that rate at which they are now allowed to draw Bill upon England in discharge of the Madras Bonds an excess which can only be warranted by the Public Faith having been virtually pledged thereto previous to the Receipt of the General Letter of 15th September 1785

106 In the Proceedings noted in the Margin you will find a Letter addressed to the Governor General and Council on the 5th Sept^r 23d July last by the President and Council at Fort Saint George enclosing Copy of Proposals which had been made to them by Messrs Harris and Lambert Merchants of this Place for supplying them with a Quantity of Bengal made Spirits and recommending it to us to contract with these Gentlemen for the Delivery at Fort Saint George free of all Charges of 500 Leaguers of double Distilled Rum and the same Quantity of Arrack annually upon the Terms proposed to them and which they themselves had it not in their Power to accept as they were unable to command either of the Modes of Payment stipulated for by Messrs. Harris and Lambert Vizt either in Money or by Bills on this Government at 30 days Sight with a Clause inserted in them that if not paid when due they should be allowed such discounts as Paper then might sell for

107 It was resolved on this Occasion that the Spirits required should be furnished by the Agent for Supplies to the Presidency of Fort Saint George on the same Terms and of the same Quality as proposed by Messrs Harris and Lambert and that the whole Expence of the Supply including the Agents Commission and the Charges of Transportation to Fort Saint George should not exceed the Amount of the Offers made by Messrs Harris and Lambert We have since however come to a Determination which will be invariably adhered to that all Supplies of Stores and Provisions to be sent to the other Presidencies upon any Indents or Applications to be received hereafter shall be provided by Contract on Public advertisement Sealed Proposals being delivered in for the same and the Presidencies of Fort Saint George and Bombay have been desired to give us timely Notice of their Wants that those Wants may be supplied at the proper Seasons of the Year and on the most reasonable Terms

Comm
20th Sept^r

108 The Consultation of the 5th September contains an application from the Paymaster General to his Majesty's Troops in India and our Resolutions in Consequence of it that as the King's Forces in India are paid from the Bengal Funds the Presidency of Fort Saint George shall not be debited since Mr Burke has received the advances here for the Expences of the King's Troops but that an Head shall be raised for the Paymaster General of the King's Troops in the Books of our Military Paymaster General. Mr Burke was however still directed to make all his Disbursements according to the special Order and under the absolute Controul of the Governor and Council at Fort Saint George and to stand accountable to them and to their proper Officer of Check and Controul for every Disbursement of Pay to his Majesty's Troops and to be subject to their Orders in every Respect whatever Credit being only to be given to him here for the amount of such accounts as should be duly passed by that Government.

109 The Modes which is now in use of issuing the Pay to his Majesty's Troops in India being thought to be less favourable to the Interests of the Public than others which have been proposed to us by the President and Council at Fort Saint George we have it in contemplation to adopt a New one which will be communicated to you hereafter and Mr Burke has been informed that it is not probable that the Remittances will continue to be made to Madras for this Purpose after the Issues which he has already received on Account of the Advance for the Month of October

110 Our Proceedings of the 2d October contain a Letter from Mr Moodie Surgeon to the Royal Artillery enclosing Certificates which he had received from the President and Council at Bombay amounting to Rupees 8,091-8-9 for Field Allowances during the Period of his Service under that Presidency which he expected would have been paid by the Court of Directors but for which (as he was disappointed in this Expectation in Consequence as he states of the Certificates being extremely defective in point of Form) he requested that we would grant him Bills in your Hon'ble Court on his giving ample Security that the Company should sustain no Loss in the Event of the Certificates being paid in the Interim in England

111. We agreed to allow Mr Moodie Bills on Europe for the amount of the Certificates issued in his favor with Interest from the 22d July 1786 the Time from which it was granted to Captain Ralston on the Bills drawn on us by the President and Council at Bombay on his giving proper Security that the Amount shall not be claimed in England should the Original Certificates have been in the mean Time discharged there

112 Mr Moodie has again addressed us in this Subject and states that as Captain Ralston received at Bombay Bills on this Government for the Amount of his Certificates with Interest at 9 P Cent from their Date in August 1784, till the 23d April 1786, he hoped it was our Intention to

adopt the same Mode in the Adjustment of his Bills This request lies over for future Decision

113 The Right Honble the Governor General has appointed Lieutenant Colonel Ross of the 45th Regiment of Foot to be Adjutant General to all his Majesty's Troops in India in the place of Major Gratton who is for the present appointed Adjutant General to the King's Troops on the Coast of Coromandel with his former Allowances but should Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart not return to India it is intended to appoint Major Gratton Quarter Master General and that he shall be succeeded by a Deputy Adjutant General with a very moderate Allowance

114 On the 11th Ultimo a Minute was delivered in by Lord Cornwallis proposing that the Military Pay Master General should be called on to furnish the Board with an Account Current of the Advances to and by him on account of the Off Reckoning Fund^s as prescribed in the General Orders of the 23d March 1780 and to pay the Balance of this Account immediately into the General Treasury The Military Paymaster General has in Compliance with the Instructions transmitted to him on this Occasion delivered in his Account Current and the Balance in his Hands appears to amount to Current Rupees 2 78 811 3-1

115 Mr Henchman having requested to be indulged with a reasonable Time to complete the Payment of this Balance into the Treasury we have agreed to allow him three Months for paying one half and a further Period of three Months for paying in the Remainder

116 The Accountant General has been desired to report upon Mr Henchman's Account Current and that Gentleman to Preclude the Possibility of its being supposed that the Money which has passed into his Hands on this Account is a Balance of Cash which he ought to have paid into the Honble Company's Treasury has addressed to us on Account of the Nature of his Agency in which he states that this Money was never meant to return thither being that part of the Pay of the Army which is Monthly stopped to pay for the Cloathing of the Troops as far as required and afterwards to form a Capital to be divided among certain Ranks of the Army according to long usage and justified by Public Authority that he was appointed by Government Agent for the Receipt of this Money and was at certain Times afterwards to pay the same to the Agents of Cloathing who remitted to every Officer the Share he might be entitled to according to the Division adjusted by the Board of Officers specially appointed every Year for that purpose that it has been an Agency publicly bestowed on the Military Pay Master General for Years that as much he enjoyed it and is not apprehensive that it will be deemed an unreasonable Emolument to be left with his Office when the Allowances were reduced to their present Standard

117 On Setting Accounts with Mr George Hatch late Paymaster to the 3d Brigade a Balance appeared to be due to the Company of Current

rupees 82,960-15-9 on the Subject of which he addressed the Military Pay Master General on the 10th July stating that this Balance is wholly comprised of Retrenchments from his Disbursements great Part of which yet remains unadjusted and uncovered that many of the Articles are redeemable from Officers who have left the Country or the Estates of those deceased Many prior even to the Accounts having been prepared for Audit and frequently before the Retrenchment had taken Place or could possibly be notified to him and that in other Cases that the Parties have been removed and the Paymaster to the Corps they have been attached to incompetent to make the Stoppages either from fresh appeals or positive refusal to refund

118 Upon these and other forcible Grounds Mr. Hatch solicited and the Military Pay Master General recommended a Remission of some Part at least of the heavy Balance outstanding against him We have however delayed coming to any immediate Decision on his Case and have required every Paymaster to state forthwith all objections which he may have to Retrenchments from his Accounts so that every Instance of this Kind may come before us at once

119 The late Advices from your Governor General and Council have kept you informed of the New Military Regulations which Consn 6th Sept^r have been adopted in Consequence of the Arrangement directed in your General Letter of the 21st September 1785. The Commissary General having on the 6th September submitted to us some Queries relative to the pecuniary Situation of Supernumerary Officers he was informed that the Allowances to be received by the Supernumerary Officers and those who prefer going on the Half Pay List should be confined to the Proportion we have fixed of what goes under the Denomination of Pay and Batta and shall not comprehend the Gratuity and Additional Allowance or any Part of them A List of Officers who have become Supernumerary as received from the Adjutant General appears on our Proceedings of 2nd October It is refer'd to the Secretary to the Military Department of Inspection for Examination and Report

120 Colonel Arthur Ahmuty and Lieutenant Colonel Robert Blane have obtained our Permission to resign the Hon'ble Company's Service and proceed to Europe on the Sailing of the Ships on which they are about to embark As both are Officers of Long Service and Experience We recommend their readmission in the service if it should be their wish to return to it We cannot let this Occasion pass without Noticing to you the very favorable Impression we entertain of the Conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Blane His gallantry and Active Service during the late War in the Carnatic make him deserving of any Favor you may be pleased to confer on him and We mean not to do Injustice to the Character of any other Officers in your Army when we assure you that We are much concerned that the Settlement of his Affairs makes it necessary for him to repair to England for a short time tho' he does so with a view which we trust will not be disappointed of returning without Prejudice to his Rank to Bengal

121 Colonel Ahmuty and Lieutenant Colonel Blane applied to us for leave to retire upon half Pay upon the Terms offered by the 87th Paragraph of your General Letter under date the 21st September 1783 but as we had previously resolved that leave of absence could not be granted to Officers except when there were Supernumeraries of the same Rank to supply their Places as advised in our General Letter by the Ranger and as there were no Supernumerary Officers of the Rank of Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel the request of Colonel Ahmuty and Lieutenant Colonel Blane could not be complied with

122 The following Officers have obtained our Permission to return to Europe upon half Pay on the Terms offered in the 87th Paragraph of your General Letter of 21st September 1785 Majors William Clode John Landog William Cooke John Henderson Edward Rawstone Captains Robert Bornford Herbert Lloyd Alexander Thompson Robert Anderson, H. MacDermot Andrew Davidson William Wood Lieutenants Thomas Berrell Christopher Cleobury James Tandy T Wyatt Edmd Field Richard Llewellyn J Wado John Williams T Cossons R Fleming David Alston Thomas Sibthorpe John Blackwell William Downes John Hammond John Home William Moncrief James Mc Roberts Ensigns T H Osborne T Bingley John Robins J Nind J Mills G Hyde J Blenman, F R Mullex. Lieutenant Fireworkers Walter Smith Robert Douglas

123 An application has also been made to us by Lieutenant V Dubois for Permission to return to Europe This Officer Consist. 20th Sept having been charged with committing a Murder as you 25th October will be more fully advised from the Revenue Department and having taken Refuge at Chinsura his desire was refused

124 Lieutenant John Maclean of the Artillery has been permitted to retire to Europe on the Pension Established by the late Lord Clive's Military Fund having taken the Oath necessary to qualify himself for it and we have been induced by the peculiar Circumstances of his Situation to allow him the Passage Money allotted to Officers of his rank who retire on half Pay

125 Mrs. Wells the Widow of Brovet Ensign Luke Wells has also been admitted to the Benefit of the Pension of her late Consist. 20th Husband's Rank a Certificate of her Marriage having 10th October been produced to us.

126 A Letter was addressed to us on the 20th of September by Colonel Pearse who was invested by our Resolutions of the 31st July last with the General Command of the Corps of Artillery stating that the Commissary General did not consider himself Authorized to pass his Bills for the same Allowances as were drawn by Colonels of Infantry We have been induced in Consideration of Colonel Pearse's Rank in the Army and Station in the Corps of Artillery to admit of his drawing the same Batta and Allowances as an Officer of the same Rank in the Command of a Brigade.

127. During the Campaign in the year 1781 against the Marattas in the Neighbourhood of our Western Frontier, and while a part of your Army was stationed in Garrison at Kollaris under the Command of Major Maclary, Lieutenant John Tailour who had been bred to Physic did at the desire of the Commanding Officer take upon himself the charge of the Sick and Wounded while there was no Surgeon at the Place and continued in that Charge during five Months that the Garrison was invested by a Maratta Army doing his Duty as an Officer at the same time His Bills for this Service were rejected by the late Committee of Accounts and by the Board because they had been paid to Mr. Ford Surgeon Major to the Army who as appears from a Letter addressed to Mr. Tailour by the Directions of Colonel Muir (then Commanding Officer of the Army on the other side of the Jumna) had promised to account with Mr Tailour for whatever Part of the General Hospital Expences he might be entitled to Mr Ford afterwards died and his Estate having been insolvent Mr. Tailour's attornies Messrs Graham Crommelin and Moubray have again Solicited us to reconsider his Case and order Payment of the Bills.

128 Altho' we cannot warrant a double Payment on the same Account we are still Sensible of the extreme Hardship of Lieutenant Tailour's Situation in Consequence of those Payments having been made to Mr Ford which rightfully belonged to him. We beg leave therefore to recommend his Claim to your favourable Consideration Copies of the Letter from his Attornies and the Papers which accompanied it are sent Number in the Packet

129. You have long since been informed of the Appointment of a Committee to reaudit the Accounts of Mr. Stephen Bayard, Paymaster to the Detachment which served during the late War in the West of India The Gentlemen who composed this Committee have brought their Proceedings to a Close and submitted them to our Inspection. As they are extremely Voluminous we are obliged to postpone addressing you on such Parts of them, as may require your Attention, to some future Period and shall content ourselves on the present Occasion with acquainting you that they have been confirmed by us and will be transmitted to the Military Paymaster General with Instructions to him to call upon the Parties against whom Retrenchments now stand for immediate Payment of them

130 The proceedings of the Committee upon a Variety of Claims before them exhibit not only distinguished Proofs of their Accurate Knowledge of the Regulations of the Service Applicable to points of Difficulty increased by their Length of Time which has elapsed since the Claims have been in Suspence but of the Impartiality with which their Opinions have been delivered and we have thought it incumbent on us to testify the high Sense which we entertain of their Attention to the Investigation with which they were charged They have been at much Pains and Trouble without any pecuniary reward or even application for it We have therefore resolved to present them with a gratuity of five thousand Sicca Rupees each as a Recompense for their Labors.

131 We were not unmindful in this Instance of your Orders of the 16th April 1772 respecting Gratuities but as the Gentlemen of the Committee had not had any Salaries annexed to their Appointments we found ourselves obliged to recompense them in some Way or other and what we have granted is nearly the total of what a Moderate Salary would have been had it been given to them for the Time for which they were employed.

132 Our Proceedings of the 25th Ultimo contain a Letter from the Commissary General requesting Instructions to enable
 Consn. him to Audit some Contingent Bills and Extra Charges
 25th October incurred upon Foreign Service with the Detachment Commanded by Colonel Muir and Lieutenant Colonel Camac.

133 Upon a reference to the Decisions of the late Board of Inspection upon these Bills it appears that in September 1783 application was ordered to be made to Colonel Muir for Explanations on many of the Charges contained in them the Possession of which would have enabled the Commissary General to have passed the Bills or would have otherwise furnished the Board with some certain Grounds either to reject or admit them but from an unaccountable Delay in the Department of Accounts these Decisions were not forwarded to the Commissary General until January 1785 and Subsequent to the Embarkation of Colonel Muir for Europe which rendered a reference to him for the necessary information on the subject impracticable

134 A very heavy Balance Stands on the Military Paymaster General's Books to the Debit of Colonel Muir against which the amount of these Bills is to be set off and that Balance is stated by the Commissary General to be more in Amount than the Sum Total of the abovementioned Charges

135 Under these Circumstances and being wholly removed from the means of acquiring such Vouchers as would enable us to decide upon the Grounds of Equity and Justice at the same Time that the Delay in the adjustment of Colonel Muir's Accounts deprives us of an Opportunity of calling upon that officer's Attornies for the Difference which the Admission of the Bills would give us an immediate Claim to require the Payment of we have been induced to order them to be passed in full and to direct the Military Paymaster General to enter into an immediate Adjustment of Colonel Muir's Accounts.

Military Department of Inspection

136 We forward herewith a Packet from the late Board of Ordnance as per separate List and the Proceedings of the Military Board from 25th May to the 31st August 1786 with Index

137 We have already had the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Commands as contained in your General Letter of the 14 March 1780 relative to the Donation of the late Vizier Sujah ul Dowla to that Part of

the Bengal Army which was employed on the Rohilla Expedition which were refer'd to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd our Secretary in the Military Department of Inspection with Orders to him to report the Progressive Resolutions formed by this Government with your Subsequent Instructions that we might have a Complete View of the Subject in all its Stages.

138. A Copy of the Report prepared in Consequence of our Orders attends you a Number in the Packet It was referred to the Military Board with Instructions to state their Sentiments of the best Mode of carrying your Commands into Execution and of ascertaining and issuing the Prize Money to the Parties legally entitled to the same.

139 The Military Board have declared their Opinion that there is reason to apprehend Inconvenience and Expence may be brought upon the Company by any Interference on our Part in the Distribution of the Donation and have recommended to us to require the Troops entitled to the Donation to elect and make known their Agents and to give them full Power to receive the Money from the Treasury They have proposed that this Resolution should be published in General Orders together with authenticated Copies of such Papers on the Subject as are now in the Hands of the Secretary that the Money may be paid to those entitled to it and the Company freed from all Risk, Expence or Trouble on this Account.

140 We have the Honor to transmit to you by the Swallow our Proceedings in the Military Department of Inspection from the 21st August to the 1st Instant and to acquaint you that the Claim in the Proceedings of the former Military Department during the Time when the Secretary Lieutenant Colonel Kyd was absent from Bengal with the Intention of returning to Europe will be filled up in Time to be forwarded by the next Dispatch.

141 Some points which remain for our final Decision as stated in a Letter from the Secretary to the Military Department of Inspection under Date the 25th October which attends you a Number in the Packet have prevented the Completion of the General List of the Army in Time to be forwarded by the Swallow These are whether the Official Rank of Lieutenant Colonel and Major lately annexed by the Court of Directors to the Staff appointments of Quarter Master General and Adjutant General and their Deputy when these Officers hold inferior Rank in the Army is to commence from any fixed period or shall only entitle the Holders to be considered as the Youngest in their respective Rank of Lieutenant Colonel and Major and whether the Progressive Rank accruing from granting Staff Officers (under the Circumstances promised) Rank from a fixed period may not only entail Supercession of Officers originally prior to such Staff Officers on their attaining the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel and Major but also prove the means of throwing them out of their respective Share of the Revenue Money

142 These Points came formerly under Consideration on the 4th of July when it was resolved that the Adjutant General and other Staff Officers holding Superior Rank under the new Military Arrangemen-

should rank as the Juniors in the last Promotion of the Ranks they hold by their respective Officers but as the Commissions have not yet been issued we have it in Contemplation to revise the Resolution of that date.

143 Another reference has lately been made to us by the Secretary to the Military Department of Inspection relative to the Situation of the Officers of Bencoolen with respect to the Rank and Station in the Bengal Army in Consequence of your Orders of the 21st September 1785 which directed that the Military Establishment necessary to be stationed at Bencoolen should be a Detachment from the Bengal Army and in all respects form a part of it.

144 A Copy of Colonel Kyd's Letter to us on this Subject goes a Number in the Packet We have resolved that the Officers of the Fort Marlbro Establishment shall be ranged in a Separate List for the present (independent of that of Bengal in the List to be prepared for your information) and that in the mean Time as some of the Bengal Officers are now on Duty at that Presidency the Officers of the Fort Marlbro Establishment shall take Rank (when acting in Conjunction with those of the Bengal Establishment) from the date of the receipt of your directions for the Incorporation of the Troops of Fort Marlbro in the Bengal Establishment.

145 This Arrangement is to be adhered to till the Receipt of your final Orders on the subject with which we request we may be favored as soon as possible.

146 We had the Honor to acquaint you in the 257 and 258 Paragraphs of our Advices by the Ranger that we had authorized the Deputy Governor and Council at Fort Marlbro to grant Permission to Lieutenant

Colonel A Muray to return to Europe on his half Pay
Consa. whenever they might be able to dispense with his Services
20th October

leaving it to you to determine what that half Pay should be. A Letter has since been addressed to us by that Officer requesting (in Consequence of the Information received from Fort Marlbro that the Company's Settlements in Sumatra were in a perfect state of Tranquillity) that he might be permitted to proceed to England direct from Bengal We have agreed to this request the Decision upon his Rank and consequently upon the amount of his half Pay being still left to your Hon ble Court

147 When the Deputy Governor and Council of Fort Marlbro permitted Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Murray to return to Bengal for the purpose of Soliciting our Permission to proceed to England on leave of Absence they strongly urged a compliance with his request and recommended him to our Notice as an Officer deserving of every indulgence. He was promoted to the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel by the Governor and Council of Fort Marlborough in 1783 till the Pleasure of the Hon ble Court of Directors should be known his Services at Fort Marlbro have been much approved by that Government and this Board under date the 5th May 1784 expressed themselves highly sensible of his Merits and

Labours and assured him that they would consider of some Extra compensation for his Services " We therefore think it necessary in justice to Lieutenant Colonel Murray to acquaint you that he has not demanded or received the said promised Extra Compensation from this Government.

148 We have received a letter from the Adjutant General, Lieutenant Colonel Peter Murray representing the insufficiency and disproportion of the allowances and Establishment of his Office. Lieutenant Colonel Peter Murray has served the Company sixteen Years in India. We entertain an high sense of his Merits and it is not without Concern that we have refrained from an immediate compliance with his request which We consider as reasonable and proper. We inclose his letter for your information and being ourselves satisfied that his allowances are really inadequate to his unavoidable expence and their disproportion whether to the importance or actual business of the Office being evident on the comparison he exhibits in his letter we recommend it to your favourable attention in confidence that you will think it not less just than proper to grant an increase of the Salary and Establishment of this respectable and important Office in the full extent of Lieutenant Colonel Murray's application and to authorize such increase of Salary from the date of that letter. Though in this instance we confess we are strongly convinced that the increase of Salary applied for is not only moderate but even necessary yet we have for the present only yielded to the necessity of authorizing an increase of the Establishment of the Office by the Employment of two Additional Assistant[s] but we have encouraged Lieutenant Colonel Murray to hope every thing from your liberal consideration at all times of such of your Servants as render themselves conspicuous by their Assiduous and faithful discharge of their duties

149. You are already advised of the Institution of the Hospital Board and the Medical Arrangements which have been made prior to the date of our last Dispatches.

150 The Arrangement of the Hospital and Regimental Mate which has been made by them appears on our Proceedings noted in the Margin and was accompanied by a Recommendation that your Consn 5th Sept. Regulations which directed that the latter should be reduced from the Pay of Lieutenants to that of Ensigns might not be enforced as they deemed it impossible that a Regimental Mate who is obliged to keep a Palankeen to enable him to fulfill his Duty could support himself on Ensign's Pay and Batta but we have not considered ourselves at Liberty to yield to their recommendation

151. The Proceedings of the Hospital Board from the 21st August to the 23d October are transmitted to you a Number in the Packet

Reform

152. Our Proceedings in this Department are transmitted to you from the 6th September to the 25th Ultimo with Index,

153 The following Paragraphs of your General Letter dated 12th April 1786 have been recorded in Paragraphs 19 20 33
 Consn. 20th Sept. 34 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50
 51 53 77

Paragraph 19

154 In consequence of the Approval contained in this Paragraph of the Orders and Regulations established in the Civil Department as advised in our Letter from the Secret Department of Inspection bearing date the 31st July Paragraph 68 in as far as the same were consistent with the Orders we had received from the Company since the date of those Advices our Orders and Regulations have been corrected and published and have taken Effect. A Copy of them appears on our
 Consn 20th Sept. Proceedings noted in the Margin

Paragraph 20

155 This Paragraph lies over for future Consideration it being left to us to exercise the Authority therein given to us as Occasion may be found to require.

Paragraph 33

156 So long ago as on the 24th August 1784 your Governor General and Council evinced a strong desire to reduce the large allowances enjoyed by the Officers of the Supreme Court of Judicature and requested the Opinion of the Judges with respect to such Parts of the Establishment as would admit of Diminution The Judges observed in Answer bearing date 14th March 1785 that on the whole they could not see what Parts of their Establishment would admit of Diminution unless the Legislature should empower his Majesty to make a total Change in the Charter and he should think fit to exercise his Power by establishing a judicature and Modes of Process very different from the present The Judges also observed that neither the Number of their Ministerial Officers nor the appointed Salaries of those Officers could be lessened by any Act of the East India Company alone nor consequently by any Act of the Board.

Paragraph 34

157 The Salary of the Advocate General has been reduced from Current Rupees 33 990 Per Annum to Current Rupees 30 000 and your Orders respecting the Senior and Junior Counsel have been carried into Execution

Paragraph 36 37

158 These Paragraphs have been published for the Satisfaction of your Servants in General

Paragraph 41

159 A Copy of this Paragraph was sent to the Board of Trade

Paragraph 43 to 51

160. By these Orders Mr. Alexander stands dismissed from your Service. He proceeded to England at the Beginning of the present Year and long before our receipt of them.

Paragraph 53

161 The Board regret that the full Occupation of their Time in the various Departments of Government has prevented them from yet forwarding to you compleat Establishments and a compleat digest of Regulations for the Civil and Military Departments. The Military Regulations however are compleated and the Civil are so in a great Degree The Secretary and Commissary General have been ordered to collect and lay before us all the Military Regulations and Establishments, that were passed while Lieutenant General Sloper had the Command in Chief and the Secretary and Accountant General are directed to collect and lay before us all the Regulations for the Civil Department which have been passed since December 1784 with a Note of such Regulations and Establishments as yet remain to be compleated that the whole work may be furnished and transmitted to you as soon as possible.

162. We have the Honor to refer you to our Proceedings of the 6th September for the perusal of a letter from your President and Council at Bombay enclosing a Protest from the Committee of Consn 6th Sept Bond Creditors of that Presidency against the Mode and we had resolved on the Interest on their Bonds. The same Proceedings contain our reply to that Representation.

163 In Consequence of a reference made to us by the Accountant General to the Revenue Department we resolved that the Allowances to the Surgeon at the Durbar and to the Resident's Assistants should be considered within the meaning of the Orders of the 29th December 1785 and deducted from the Resident's Commission of 5 P. Cent on the Stipends paid from his Office. We also resolved that the Dawk Charges, Charity to Fakiers, Bramins etc Nizamut and Imaumbara as stated by the Accountant General should be considered as within the Establishment paid by the Resident and deducted from his Commission likewise

We beg leave to refer you to the List of Packet for the Accounts Statements accompanying this address

Fort Wilham,
11th November 1786.

We have the Honor to be Hon'ble Sirs,
Your most faithful
Humble Servants.

LETTER DATED 11 NOVEMBER 1786

Adjustment of Nizam's tribute—Tanjore Minister removed—assistance to Marathas declined—Sindia's operations in the Doab checked—Nawab of Farrukhabad's complaints—Shahzada's wish to visit Calcutta

TO the Hon^{ble} Secret Committee of the Hon^{ble} the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon^{ble} United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

Hon^{ble} Sirs

1 As many parts of our Political Proceedings are upon subjects of Secrecy and connected with Orders received or proper to be expected from the Secret Committee we take upon us to part from the usual practise by addressing the entire Narrative of them to you and transmitting to you Copies of our Consultations in the Political Department. If this alteration of the former mode of address should not be agreeable to you or to the Hon^{ble} Court of Directors, we shall readily comply with the orders we may receive to revert to it

2 The Consultations of the Governor General and Council in their Political Department brought up to the 17th of August were transmitted to the Hon^{ble} Court of Directors by the Ranger's Packet. They are now forwarded to you from that period to the 30th Ultio with the Index that belongs to them

3 In your Letter to the Committee dated the 28th August we informed you of that which we had written on the 16th May to the President and Council at Fort St George in consequence of your instruction of the 22nd Septemr 1786 relative to the Circar of Guntoor and the arrears of the Peakush due to the Nabob Nizam Ally Khawn. The President and Council acquainted us in reply dated the 14th August that in the then state of the War between the Nizam and Tippoo Sultan while the Contending parties were at Bay on Account of the Monsoons but Zealous in their preparations for the ensuing Campaign they were of opinion it might not be improper to sound the Soubah of the Decan on his disposition respecting the Guntoor Circar. Altho perhaps it might be unnecessary to urge him to an accomplishment of the wishes of the Committee even if they were possessed of the necessary information respecting his receipts from the Circar since the death of Baxalet Jung. With respect to these receipts they observed that the system of an Asiatic Government made it a matter of great difficulty to ascertain them with any degree of precision, and that this difficulty had prevented them from obtaining any new Intelligence on the subject which could be depended on but that since the receipt of the Letter from the Secret Committee their President had been desired to

endeavor by every possible means, to acquire every necessary information, which they would lose no time in communicating to us. We have not since had any advices from the President and Council on the Subject

4. We have reason to believe that the Jumma Kaumil, or old Standard Crown Rent of the Circar of Guntoor, will be found to amount to about twelve Lacks of Hyderabad Sicca Rupees, being nearly the Medium of the actual Gross Rental of the Circar, compared with the neat annual Settlement usually concluded with the Zemindars, after allowing every ordinary deduction for Provincial Sebundy and every other Mofussil charge commonly incurred under the Nizamut. The aggregate therefore of this Established revenue, from the period of the demise of Bazalut Jung in the beginning of October 1782, when the right of possession devolved on the Company, to the month of February 1787 will, according to justice and to the Letter or Spirit of subsisting Treaties, completely balance or cancel all demands of the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn on account of old arrears due to the Government of Fort St George for the yearly Peshcush of Five Lacks P Annum on account of the four Northern Circars actually in the Company's Possession, with the addition of two more Lacks since the Company's reversionary right to the fifth or Guntoor Circar hath taken place. This Estimate includes a demand of little more than two Lacks, as stated by the Government of Fort St George, against Bazalet Jung for military Charges, while in possession of the Circar, and without reckoning any part of Nizam Ally's receipts for two years preceding the death of his Brother, during which, thro' favor of the British Government in withdrawing their Troops, his Highness was permitted to take possession of the Province, and in lieu of the Revenue of twelve Lacks derived from it, is supposed never to have accounted with Bazalut Jung for more than two Lacks of Rupees

5 It is to be considered whether the actual possession of the Guntoor Circar, if it was tendered to us by, or obtained from, Nizam Ally, with the additional Expence the defence of it would incur, would answer a better oeconomical purpose to the Company than that of being set off against the Tribute for the Circars. In a political Light it would certainly be satisfactory to possess it. But, as the success which Tippoo has lately obtained in the conquest of Adoni, and the approach which he has made by it to the Circar of Guntor, will undoubtedly excite his jealousy if any measure we may adopt for the Assumption of our right to that Country, and in it's probable effects produce immediate Hostilities, we are persuaded you will agree with us, that this is not the moment at which the right should be claimed, even if the Nizam could be easily brought to consent to it

6. In the 32d, 33d, 34th and 35th Paras of the General Letter to the Court of Directors by the Ranger, they were informed by the late Administration of the reference made to them by the President and Council at Fort St George of the state of the Tanjore Country and the measures they had resolved on to prevent the Ruin with which it was threatened.

7 The Governor General and Council convinced upon the Representations from Fort St George and the reports which had
 Consn. 30th Augt. reached them from different quarters of the unworthiness of Bawa the Minister or Dewan of the Raja of Tanjore, to fill his Office and alarmed for the safety and prosperity of Tanjore by the emigration of its Inhabitants which was the natural Consequence of the very oppressive system suffered in that Country did not hesitate in giving their sanction to that which appeared to them to be a measure of necessity Vizt the removal of the Minister They were sure that in affecting this object and in any other measure the President and Council might think necessary for the improvement of Tanjore they would be disposed to shew every attention and respect to the Raja Mr Macpherson's Letter to the Raja of Tanjore most strongly recommended his Voluntary removal of the Minister and expressed his assurance of his Excellency's compliance with his request.

8 A Letter having been received from the Nabob Nizam Ally Khan in which his Highness made mention of some irregularities said to have
 Consn. 20th Octor been committed by Servants of the English Company in the Talook of Cummeen. His Highness was informed that Orders would be sent to Fort St George to make immediate enquiry into the Circumstance of his representation that the most Ample satisfaction might be rendered if any English Officers had conducted themselves improperly in his Country and a Letter was written to Fort St. George accordingly

9 Our last advices from the Resident and Factors at Tellicherry dated the 16th August mention that Caricola the head of the Insurgents
 Consn. 6th Oct had fortified himself during the rains and was preparing for action and that Calcut would probably fall on the first attack. They had also received intelligence that the Nabob Tippoo Sultan's Troops in their Neighbourhood had received orders to march up the Ghauts and join Tippoo who it was said had sent to the Samorin then under the protection of the King of Travancore to return and take possession of his Country

10 The Letter from Tellicherry gave cover to one from the Nabob
 Consn. 6th Octor Tippoo Sultan to Mr Macpherson. It was conceived in very friendly terms and principally relative to the Embargo laid upon the exportation of Pepper and Sandal Wood which, however we have no reason to expect will be soon discontinued

11 We have the Honor to transmit to you a number in this address
 Consn. 27th Sept Copy of a Minute delivered in by Lord Cornwallis soon after he received charge of the Government in which his Lordship's attention is specially drawn to the promise made to the Mahrattin State of an aid of Troops from Bombay His Lordship was firmly persuaded that the measure proceeded from the warmest anxiety for the Public Good but his opinions (the grounds of which appear in his Minute) are decidedly against a continuance of it He therefore proposed

that we should avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded by the change of Government to draw a distinct line for our future Conduct, and that a Letter should be written to the Peshwa, which should notify to him our resolutions to suspend all negotiation for granting an Aid of Troops, which could not be carried into execution consistently with the rules prescribed for his Lordship's Conduct To preserve inviolate the Treaties subsisting between the Company and all the Princes and States of Hindostan was declared to be not only his sincere wish, but to be required of him by the most positive orders from the Government which he served, and by the Laws of his Country, and that, whilst the Treaties with us were observed on the parts of those Princes or States, his duty forbid him to interfere in their Quarrels with each other His Lordship trusted that the undeniable proof which he had given of sacred regard to the faith of Treaties would impress the Natives of Hindostan with a firm conviction of the honor and sincerity of the British Nation

12. Lord Cornwallis's Letter to the Peshwa will be sent a number in the Packet, together with that proposed for Mr Malet, the Resident at Poona, in which his Lordship states his objections generally to the measure of granting assistance to the Mahratta State, and directs him to deliver the Peshwa's Letter in a proper manner by the earliest opportunity, Lord Cornwallis directed Mr Malet to accompany it with a declaration, in the most civil terms, that having the most friendly disposition towards the Peshwa and the Mahratta State, and the highest esteem for Nana Furnaveeze, it had given his Lordship the utmost pain to find himself under the necessity of commencing his Administration with a measure, upon which it was possible to put any other construction. But, that he could allow no consideration to operate with him, in competition with the preservation of the Faith of Treaties, and obedience to the Laws of his Country His Lordship was sensible that Mr Malet would have a delicate part to act on this critical occasion, but from his Abilities and Address great hopes were entertained that he would be able to make the communication without occasioning a breach of the friendly intercourse between the two Governments Mr. Malet was desired to add to any other expedients that might occur to himself towards smoothing a matter, probably in itself disagreeable, that from the high opinion we had of the power of the Mahratta Empire, we could not bring ourselves to believe that they had any serious danger to apprehend from such an Enemy as Tippoo, and if they had, the feeble, and restricted aid that was offered could render them but little service But, should such danger arise from the interference of any European Power against them, this Government would be ready to consider how far it could then venture to take vigorous and effectual steps for their protection and support Such an assurance might tend to soften the disappointment of the Mahratta Government, if they really suffered any, on receiving Mr Malet's other Communications, and, at the same time that it provided for the possible event of a necessity for fulfilling it, was too general to subject us in the least to a charge of a

breach of Faith if that necessity should not Arise

13 But, in truth, we are by no means certain that the Mahrattas will be disappointed their Policy might induce them to involve us in promises which they were sure we could not fulfill without breach of Treaty and Violation of a declared System and whether we did or not it might be of use to them in the course of Events to have pretences for disturbing us for on the one hand they might charge us at their convenience with inconstancy to our Engagements with other states if we broke those Engagements to assist theirs and, on the other if we refused to assist them they might accuse us of inattention to our promises An account received by Mr Johnson from Meer Mahomed Hussein our Native Agent at Hydrabad of a private Conversation he had had with the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn Shows clearly that the Nizam was aware of our not being at liberty to furnish an aid of Troops and as this idea was entertained by the Ally of the Mahratta State we are not unreasonable we think, in supposing it more than possible that it was received at Poona also

14. The Members of the Board agreed on the 27th September to the Letters which Lord Cornwallis proposed to send to the Peshwa and Mr Malet. Mr Macpherson this occasion thought it necessary to record a Minute in which he entered at large into an explanation of the measure which had met with his Lordship's disapprobation, and of the line of Conduct which he had intended to pursue as far as it was connected with that measure. A Copy of Mr Macpherson's Minute is sent a number in this Dispatch and recommended to your Attention.

15 As the Governor General did not wish to precipitate a measure of importance and as the Board might possibly think it proper to invest Mr Malet with a discretion to deliver the Peshwa's Letter immediately or delay doing so for some time as circumstances not then known to us might render expedient directions were given to the Secretary not to forward the dispatch to Poona until after the next meeting of the Council

16 In the Interval between the two meetings a Letter was received from Mr Malet dated the 21st August, in which it appeared that a French Gentleman named Gudar had arrived at Poona with a Letter from the Governor of Pondicherry said to contain proposals the objects of which were not certainly known the reports made them of some consequence To these Proposals Nana had required time to prepare an Answer but Mr Malet was of opinion that Powerful motives were not wanting to induce the Minister to attend to them Among the reports which had reached him of the objects of Mr Gudar's visit to Poona, it was mentioned that he had offered the mediation of the French between the Mahrattas and Tippoo and it was believed that an accommodation might not be difficult both parties having every reason to be perfectly satisfied with the issue of the last Campaign, and scarce any to hope for advantages from another adequate to the great expence of their respective Armaments

17. In consequence of these advices, and having an earnest desire to avoid giving offence to the Poona Ministers by unnecessary
 Consn. 2d Octr. declaring our determination to observe a strict neutrality, we were induced at the Governor General's recommendation, to give some discretionary power to Mr Malet concerning the delivery of the Letter to the Peshwa. Should he have received certain information that Tippoo had committed any open act of Hostility against any British Possessions we instructed him to withhold the Letter entirely. Should he be persuaded that the Negotiations were likely to terminate in a speedy Peace, he was left at liberty to delay the delivery of the Letter as long as it could be done without his being driven to give any evasive answer or convey to the Mahrattas the smallest hopes of assistance. But if neither of the above Circumstances should exist Mr. Malet was directed to obey our instructions of the 27th September

18 It being necessary to Cypher the Letter to the Peshwa, it was sent in English under cover to Mr. Malet with another short Letter to the Peshwa in Persian to explain the Reason.

19. A Copy of the instructions given to Mr. Malet was sent to Mr Anderson with orders not to communicate them to Mahajee Sindia until he should have been advised by Mr Malet, that they would certainly be notified to the Peshwa. The instructions given to Mr. Malet were also signified to the President and Council at Bombay.

20 The several Letters which we have received from Mr. Malet since the date of our last General Letter to the Hon'ble
 Consns 6th, 20th, 27th, Sept, 2nd, 25th and 30th Octr. Court of Directors are recorded in our Proceedings noted in the Margin Those of most importance are transmitted numbers in the Packet As the Letters which we receive from the Resident at Poona contain Minute details of all points of information of daily occurrence, many of which, tho' of apparent are not, we believe, of real importance, we do not think it necessary to enter into the whole of the Correspondence, but are content to refer you to it.

21. With respect to the French, and the various Arts with which their Agents endeavour to raise their Political Consequence in India, whether for the purpose of accomplishing an immediate object, or of placing the Character of their National Strength upon grounds that are likely to secure a future one, we deem them below our notice. If those who call themselves their Agents have authority to assume that Character, their indiscretion is a security against the success of their designs. They have been long in the habits of promising what never has been performed, and their promises are therefore now of little avail.

22. A Letter received from Mr Malet under date the 7th July 1786 having taken notice of overtures which he had received from Govind Row Quickwar to make the Company a Cession of Territory in Guzerat if they would join him with two Battalions to assist him in the recovery of his right from Futty Sing, and Mr Malet having so far attended to these proposals as to desire Nana's opinion of such a connection, the

Governor General deemed it his duty to caution him to recollect the Act of Parliament forbidding all schemes for encrease of Territory and to desire that if in future any such proposals should be made he would always be ready to discourage them by the most explicit declaration of the intention of this Government to conform strictly to the Spirit of the Law

23 Among the Letters transmitted to you in this Packet the Committee will peruse one from Mr Malet dated the 14th July which contains a particular account of the strength and state of Tippoo's Army. The information received from Lieutenant Bee an Officer of the Bombay Establishment who had escaped from Tippoo's Country will also confirm to you the Intelligence often before obtained that several of your Officers and a number of the British Subjects are yet there and treated so disgracefully that in some instances we are surprized to find that they can endure the misery which they suffer. It is painful to us to know that the several representations made to Tippoo respecting these unfortunate Prisoners have been without effect and that their release from their present situation must depend upon opportunities of escape for we have not the means of receiving them effectually but those which we are not at liberty to use

24 Several of Mr Malet's late Letters having drawn our attention particularly to the distress of his situation in the want of Funds to pay the expences of his Residency and in the disappointment
Consn. 2nd Octr he had met with of assistance from Bombay We have given him authority to draw on us for the whole of his disbursements and shall charge those that belong to the Bombay Presidency to its debit

25 Mr Thomas Wilkinson having signified to us his wish to resign the station of Assistant to the Resident at Poona we have desired the sanction of the Bombay Government to the appointment of Mr Joshua Uthoff a Factor on that Establishment to succeed Mr Wilkinson. Mr Uthoff accompanied Mr Malet to Poona and is now with him

26 It appearing by a Letter addressed to the late Governor General by Mr Malet bearing date the 3d of September that he
Consn. 30th Octr had made an offer of his Services to Sir Archibald Campbell in the care of the Interests of the Nabob Wallaw Jaw at the Court of Poona under the sanction of Sir Archibald's acquiescence and the Licence of this Board we approved the caution with which this tender had been made but desired Mr Malet not to repeat the application as we could not agree that any Servant of the Company representing us at an Indian Court should receive any orders or instructions but thro the Company's Government

27 The several Papers of Intelligence which we have received from
Consns. 6th and 20th Sept'r Hyderabad are recorded on our proceedings noted in the
2d, 6th 20th Margui
and 30th Octr

28 We transmit to you a number in this Packet Copy of a Letter addressed to Lord Cornwallis by Mr Anderson under date the 10th of last

Month. It contains a summary and connected Account of Sindia's late transactions, his past views, and probable future objects, and the circumstances of his present situation. It also contains Mr. Anderson's information and Opinions upon other points of material Importance. His narrative is drawn up with so much Ability, Clearness, and Precision, and we have so entire a reliance on the integrity of it's Author, that we must do ourselves the pleasure of recommending it to your attentive Perusal.

29 Mr. Anderson's Letter embraces in Abstract all the material points that we have to relate to you concerning Sindia
 Consn 27th Sept since the date of our last dispatch to the Court of Directors
 We think it proper, however, in addition to it to transmit numbers in this Dispatch, Copies of his Letters bearing the following dates.

10th Septmr. To the late Governor General.

11th Do To the Secretary, not address'd to him officially but
 recorded by the Board's desire

14th Do To your late Governor General.

30. The Committee will observe that Mr. Anderson, in his Letter to the late Governor General dated the 10th September took notice that Sindia was extremely anxious to reduce Golam Caudr Cawn, the Son of Zabita Cawn, and with this view had ordered a considerable Body of his Troops to remain in the Doab, altho' they had finished the service for which they were originally detached. He remarks that the crossing over of Sindia into the Doab would be attended with much alarm in the Vizier's Dominions, and that the object of it, though not immediately relating to us, is yet of such a nature as might materially interest us to prevent That a simple movement of our Troops to the most Northern part of the Vizier's Dominions would effectually stop Sindia in his pursuit, and that this step, instead of endangering the Peace, would probably contribute to its security in the effect it would have upon Sindia's affairs Mr Anderson, in his Letter to our Secretary, lays yet further stress upon Sindia's march into the Doab, and is clearly of opinion that some steps ought to be taken to Counteract the effects of it by a movement of the Troops. We must beg you to read the whole account with attent that you may be completely judges of the propriety of the measure which followed it.

31 Much as we must lament the necessity of being obliged to take any step tending to cool the Friendship, or even to lessen the appearance of Harmony between this Government and Mahajee Sindia, and any of those States with whom treaties have been lately concluded, every other Consideration was to be sacrificed to that of the Honor of this Government and the Protection and safety of its Allies In conformity therefore to the recommendation of your Resident with Mahajee Sindia
 Consn 27th Sept the Governor General sent directions to Lieutt Colonel
 Harper to order a movement of Troops upon Mr. Anderson's requisition

32 So often and so justly has the reliance of this Government been placed, and on very important occasions, upon Mr Anderson's judgment, and propriety of Conduct, that we felt no

hesitation whatsoever in vesting him with this Authority The grounds of the measure and the orders respecting it are stated in Lord Cornwallis's instructions which attend you a number in this Dispatch

33 Those instructions will shew you that Mr Anderson was left to the exercise of his judgment in another point Vixt the entering into an explanation with Mahajee Sindia upon the subject of his present intentions If there was no good reason against it it was wished that the explanation should take place The discretionary instructions were to assure Mahajee Sindia that from Mr Anderson and his Brother a representations the Governor General was impressed with a very high respect for the Personal Character of this Chief and was earnestly-desirous of his Friendship that being determined to give no just cause of offence to any Prince or State whatever the Governor General would be particularly sorry if any ill humoured discussion should arise with Mahajee Sindia whom at present he considered as one of the best of our Friends That a report had come to the Governor General which he had heard with regret that Sindia had an intention of approaching the Doab with his Army which would naturally alarm our Ally the Vizier and might occasion disputes improper to happen among Friends That while resolved to do justice to all mankind the Governor General was equally determined to suffer no insult to the Honor of this Government or to its Allies to pass unresented and that Mr Anderson thought it extremely probable that with these dispositions Government would be induced to order a part of your Army to move if the report was well founded, but that any necessary act of Hostility would give us the utmost concern

34 Among the motives for this Communication to Mahajee Sindia we were influenced by a hope that it would operate as effectually as any movement of the Troops and prevent it We have since learnt from Mr Anderson that Sindia's intention of crossing over into the Doab seems now to be entirely abandoned and that unless some additional circumstances should occur to strengthen his belief of it he should avail himself of the Latitude which had been given to him by avoiding any mention of the subject

35 Mr Anderson in the expectation of Lord Cornwallis's Arrival having requested Leave to pay his respects to his Lordship at the Presidency it was thought necessary to recommend to him not to leave Sindia in the present posture of Affairs, and when any movement of your Troops must depend on his Judgment and Discretion but should any material alteration take place and should he think that he could come without any detriment to your affairs he was informed that the Governor General would be glad to see him at the Presidency We are much concerned to acquaint you that a late letter which Lord Cornwallis has received from him acquaints his Lordship that Mr Anderson's bad state of health makes him wish to be relieved from his present station and to proceed to Europe by the Ships of this Season He has therefore wished that a Successor should be appointed as soon as possible

36 Soon after Lord Cornwallis's arrival in Bengal, his Lordship received a Letter from his Excellency the Nabob Vizier mentioning his inclination to repair to Calcutta, but that, as he was not acquainted with his Lordships wishes on that point, he proposed to depute one of his Ministers, Hyder Beg Cawn to make known his situation. Hyder Beg had indeed been very desirous during the late Administration of visiting Calcutta. The Governor General immediately consented to his coming, and Orders have been sent to your several Chiefs and Residents to shew him every attention on the Road. The Nabob Mobarik ul Dowla has also been requested to send a Principal Person to meet him at some distance from Moorshedabad. Hyder Beg will be escorted by a suitable Guard from the Company's Troops, and his own will not be greater than his situation makes it necessary. It is to consist, we understand, of four Companies of the Nabob's Sepoys, and one hundred Cavalry. He was to have left Lucknow after the Dussora, which is now passed, and will probably be here in a Month or six Weeks. During the Residence of Hyder Beg in Calcutta, an arrangement will be made for the payments of the present Year, and in the mean time Colonel Harper has been directed to settle only a temporary Provision for the payment of the Troops in the Nabob's Dominions according to the Company's orders. We are concerned to acquaint you, that the Troops in the Upper Provinces were by our last accounts very considerably in Arrears, but we hope, and indeed have reason to expect, that these have been, or will be paid before Hyder Beg's departure from Lucknow. Mr. Wombwell's statement of the balance due from the Nabob Vizier at the end of August 1786 amounted to Oude Sicca Rupees 25,91,944-12-9

	or Ct Rs	28,77,058-11-7
Add difference between the Accountt General and the Accountant at Lucknow, as stated by the Quick Stock of 31st July 1786		1,89,266-11-10
Amount due from the Vizier by the Accots of the Presidency, 31st August 1786		30,66,325-7-5

37. It was long the wish of the late Administration to obtain the permission of the Nabob Vizier that the Fortress of Allahabad should be put into a state of repair and Garrisoned by the Company's Troops. But no endeavour in Colonel Harper or Hyder Beg Cawn has proved effectual in obtaining the Nabob's consent to give up this Fortress. "His Excellency's language Colonel Harper represents" is now the same as ever, "that the delivery of it would be considered disgraceful in the Eyes of the surrounding States, as well as an impeachment of the firm faith he has ever manifested towards the English Nation. That the Gates however were open, and that we might take possession of it when we would, but that his consent could never go with it."

38. An Application having been made to us by the Attornies of

Mr James Fraser requesting that the sums which had been received into the Treasury at Lucknow on account of Mr Fraser might be paid to them and the remaining debt as payment should be received from the Nabob The Secretary was directed to lay before us whatever resolutions appeared upon the records in respect to this claim which produced a Minute from Lord Cornwallis, in which his Lordship expressed his apprehension that it had been sometimes the practice of the Board to interfere between the Nabob Vizier and his private Creditors in a manner which, in his Lordship's opinion was highly inexpedient and improper and unwarranted by the nature of our Connection with his Excellency The Governor General therefore moved that the Secretary should be ordered to convey our positive instructions to the Agent at Lucknow that he should not in future solicit the Vizier nor his Ministers for the payment of private debts and to the Accountant that he must on no pretence receive any Money except on account of this Government The motion was agreed to and orders issued according to it

39 We have the honor to refer you to the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of the 5th September for the perusal of a Letter from the Nabob of Ferocabad to the late Governor General containing various complaints against the Resident Mr Willes Mr Willes's reply to it dated the 31st July 1786 and a Letter dated the 30th in which he delivers an Account of the manner in which he had executed the Duties with which he was charged by the Board's instructions of the 27th July 1785

40 Having duly considered Mr Willes's reply to the complaints made against him by the Nabob of Ferocabad the Board were convinced that they were without foundation and that Mr Willes had exerted his best efforts which had been properly directed to their object for placing the Nabob of Ferocabad in a respectable situation and regulating the affairs of the Province but they were apprehensive from the weak and dissipated conduct of the Nabob Muzaffer Jung and from the Intrigues of the Servants of the Nabob Vizier which for many years past had defeated the good intentions of this Government in favor of Ferocabad that no measures short of those which they did not choose to authorize could apply a proper or sufficient remedy to the Evils stated by Mr Willes as oppressing that Country

41 The Resident at Ferocabad having desired to be informed in what manner he should dispose of the excess that would remain in his Treasury after providing for the different services which he had stated to us and having recommended to our notice the situation of the Nabob's three Uncles the Board agreed that a part of the Balance in the Treasury should be appropriated to their relief and that Mr Willes should be desired to state what he deemed a just and moderate provision for these persons waiting the orders of Government for bestowing it but supplying them in the mean time with such occasional advances to trifling amounts as their necessities required.

42 Upon the other subjects of reference from Mr Willes, he was

informed (prior as the Committee will observe to the receipt of the Company's orders of the 12th of April 1786) that the Board continued in the resolution passed in their Minute of the 28th June 1785 to grant him such addition to his Allowances as they might think proper from the increase of the Collections of Ferocabad. He was also informed that the Board approved of the Treasury statement which he had transmitted to the late Governor General, and of the manner in which the Nabob Muzuffer Jung's allowance had been advanced to him. In respect to the arrangements to be made for the approaching Year, and the restoration of the Lands to Muzuffer Jung which are at present possessed by the Nabob Vizier and his Aumils, the Board did not deem it proper to insist on such a measure at that time. They left it to Mr Willes to settle the Revenues of the Country for the ensuing year as well as he was able, and in the spirit of his original instructions, the further arrangements necessary to be adopted in respect to Ferocabad remaining to be considered when Mr Willes should find himself at liberty to repair to the Presidency in order to furnish Government with such information as might enable them to pass their resolutions. We expect him at the Presidency in a short time.

43 The Board agreed that Mr Willes's Conduct during his Residency at Ferocabad appeared to have been in all respects conformable to his instructions and deserving approbation.

44 A few days after Lord Cornwallis's arrival, his Lordship received Consn 27th Sept a Shoka from his Royal Highness the Shazada repeating the desire which he had often before expressed to visit the Presidency. His determination was so fixed upon this purpose that nothing could restrain him from carrying it into the earliest execution, His intention being to visit Benares first, Lord Cornwallis requested his Royal Highness, if he had determined to leave Lucknow, not to proceed beyond Benares, and that his reception at that City might be attended with all the distinctions due to his elevated Birth and Rank, the Resident was directed to shew his Royal Highness every suitable attention and respect. He was directed to keep a separate Account of the advances of Cash he might make to the Prince, for which the Nabob Vizier will of course be debited on account of the Monthly Allowance which his Excellency makes to his Royal Highness. The Prince arrived at Benares on the 14th Ult. Several letters have been since received from him by which his Royal Highness is found more urgent than ever for permission to visit Calcutta. It is at length left to himself to do as he thinks proper, and we have no doubt of seeing him very soon. We are not aware that his Royal Highness's Visit will be attended with material inconvenience or expence to the Company, as the Nabob's allowance will, we imagine, defray the necessary charges, and his Royal Highness will probably remain here only a short time.

45 Our last Letter from the Resident at Benares on the subject of account is dated the 10th October, and mentions that the Consn 20th Oct Raja has paid his 11th Kist for Sawun, ending about the middle of August.

46 A short time before the Commencement of the present Fussallee Year the Governor General and Council received a Letter from Mr Grant, the Resident at Benares in which he requested instructions respecting the settlement of that Province The questions stated in this Reference were in fact as follow

"Whether the deductions to which the Raja was annually entitled by Mr Hastings's agreements in 1781 and 1784 concluded in virtue of Powers which he had received from the Board should not be considered as permanent, and deducted from the settlement accordingly

Whether as the Pergunnahs of Nirwan Chowsah, and Zimenecah and Havilee Ghasipore had been settled at an overrated Jumma he should be authorized to let them at a low but equitable Jumma with an annual encrease for three Years

47 We refer to Mr Grant's Letter which is recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th Septemr We acquainted him in answer to it that the East India Company had an Interest of the first consequence Consn. 20th Sept in the prosperity of the Zemindarry of Benares and in the happiness of it's People and that it was certainly our object to adopt every measure consistent with our relation to Benares and with the Agreements actually subsisting with the Raja to fulfill these purposes but nothing inconsistent with those agreements could be allowed of that we were forced to admit that the deductions agreed to by Mr Hastings in 1781 and 1784 should be considered as permanent annual deductions and that they were authorized accordingly but we could admit of no interference authorized by Mr Hastings in the Internal management of the Zemindarry, and it must remain with the Raja to assess the districts as he may judge proper that the Raja might alter the monthly amounts of the stipulated Kists in such manner as he might think most conducive to the good of the Country care being taken to bring the whole annual Amount to the proper sum to be received annually from the Zemindarry adding only thereto such Installments as can be paid without injury to the Zemindarry in liquidation of the old Balance of Rs 3 14 655-2 which Installments we conceived might be fixed at one Lack of Rupees P Annum and that Mr Grant should not make any settlement with the Raja which should bind the Company for more than twelve months

48 In the general Letter to the Court of Directors by the Ranger (Para 126) the Court were informed of the orders sent to Mr Grant to have receipts written as Endorsations on the original Bond executed by Mr Bristow on the part of the Company to Gopaul Doss This requisition being made of Gopaul Doss he answered that the Bond was in his House at Calcutta but he sent an attested Account Current which shewed the Payments made on it

49 In consequence of this information we directed the Secretary to acquaint Munwar Doss the Son and Agent of Gopaul Doss and noting as his Gomastah in Calcutta, that the Bond granted by Mr Bristow on the part of the Company should be immediately transmitted to Benares

that the proper endorsements might be made thereon by Gopaul Doss in the presence of the Resident of Benares, who would deliver up whatever receipts may have been taken of Gopaul Doss and his Agents in part discharge of this Bond, and that, until this had actually taken place, the Board would not exert their influence for the recovery of the amount due thereon from Bowanny Persaud, And, as an inducement to Gopaul Doss to execute these Endorsations with as little delay as possible, a Letter directed to be written to Colonel Harper, desiring him to exert his influence with the Minister at Lucknow to obtain the discharge of the balance due from Bowanny Persaud, was ordered to be transmitted to the Resident at Benares with directions to intimate to Gopaul Doss that he was in possession of such a Letter, but had also received orders not to deliver it to Gopaul Doss until the Endorsations should have been actually executed on the back of Mr Bristow's Bond.

Fort William,
11th November 1786.

We have the Honor to be,
Hon'ble Sirs,
Your most Faithful Humble Servants.

P. S.

Since closing the foregoing Address the Accomptant at Lucknow has transmitted to us, His Excellency the Nabob Vizier's Accounts to the end of last Month at which period the balance due by his Excellency to the Company is stated at Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rupees 35,45,420-2-9 including 4,11,714-5-6 charged in Septem. for Interest of the Payments made to Gopaul Doss and 1,62,164 for what his Excellency agreed to pay for the Salaries to the Agent etc, at Lucknow from May 1785 to 31st August 1786 but without any allowance for the expence incurred by there being more Troops stationed in his Excellency's Dominions than the Force stipulated for by the treaty of 1781.

Fort William,
11 November 1786
[Per Swallow]

81

LETTER DATED 22 DECEMBER 1786

Import of salt by French—payment of arrears to Bombay army—duties of paymasters—military retrenchment and reforms.

To the Hon'ble Court of Directors

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We transmit to you by the Ship William Pitt Copies of our

Proceedings in Continuation of those sent Home by the Swallow with their Index

Foreign beginning with those of the 6th November and ending with those of the 29th November

Military beginning with those of the 6th and ending with those of the 29th November

From the Dept of Reform beginning with those of the 6th and ending with those of the 27th November

2 We have also the Honor to transmit to you a Quadruplicate of our last address dated the 11th November

3 On the 6th September our Secretary laid before us a Letter which he then received via Bussorah from Mr Secretary Morton, dated 14th July and transmitting for our Guidance and observance an Act entitled An Act for the further regulation of the Trial of Persons accused of certain Offences committed in the East Indies for repealing so much of an Act made in the 24th Year of the Reign of his present Majesty (entitled an Act for the better regulation and Management of the Affairs in the East India Company and of the British Possessions in India and for establishing a Court of Judicature for the more speedy and effectual trial of Persons accused of Offences committed in the East Indies) as requires the Servants of the East India Company to deliver Inventories of their Estates and Effects for rendering the Laws more effectual against Persons unlawfully resorting to the East Indies and for the more easy proof in certain Cases of Deeds and writings executed in Great Britain or India

4 The said Act as soon as received was sent to the Press and copies of it were circulated throughout the Settlement

5 We think it proper to observe to you that the outward Cover to Mr Morton a Letter was marked No 4 but that no other Dispatch was received with it or since that Period and that the Letter had no Enclosures except the Act of Parliament above mentioned and a List of Ships called for and arrived from the East Indies since your Advice by the Swallow Packet We understand by private Advice that a Packet from the India house was cut off by the Arabs.

FOREIGN

French

6 The separate article of the Convention concluded at the Isle of France between Monsr Le Vicomte De Souillac and Lt Coll Cathcart having stipulated that the Relations and Friends of the Dandy who was killed by a shot from Budge Budge in the Corvette L Esperance should be indemnified as far as may be for their loss by a pecuniary Compensation from the English Government it was our wish that Mr Dangereux would suggest to us what Provision he deemed proper but as he had not thought it necessary to do so and had written more than once to us respecting this Article we requested him to send the People to our Commissary who

would give them the necessary Sum of Money. We have not heard of any Family which the deceased has left, except a Widow Cons. 20th Novr. who being in the District of Sylhet, we have as Mr. Dangereux proposed to us directed orders to be sent to the Collector to give her suitable support.

7 The French Agent having acquainted us that the French Company's Ship the Compto D Artois was arrived in the river with sixty seven Garces of Salt which she had laden at Pondicherry, and requested, as he wished her to stop at Kedgeree to take in her Cargo instead of proceeding, as usual to Ishera, where the French Salt is deposited, that the Salt might be brought up in Boats under such Guard and Precautions as should prevent Fraud and Embezzlement, we complied with Mr. Dangereux's Solicitation altho' it was irregular, trusting that in future he would not see occasion to repeat his Application that Ships bringing Salt should be unloaded at any Place but that fixed on for the Purpose

8 The Comptroller of the Salt Office represented to us on the 24th of last Month that a French Vessel named Gopaul Samy commanded by a Sirang, and having a Passport from Monsr. Le Forrestier, Cons. 29th Nov French Chief at Masulpatam, had imported Eighteen hundred Maunds of Salt.

As the Agreement made with the French Agent, and confirmed by the Convention settled at the Isle of France, between the French Governor General and Colonel Cathcart, precluded the Importation of Salt in Vessels not navigated or Commanded by Europeans the Comptroller was directed to detain the Vessel and Salt under his Charge until the receipt of such further Directions as it might be thought necessary to give him respecting them

9. A considerable Time having elapsed without any Application from Mr Dangereux on this Subject we gave orders on the 11th Instant Cons 11 Dec that the Salt should be confiscated on the 21st, thus allowing Time to the French Agent to offer any reasons, if he had any to offer, that might induce us not to carry the resolution into effect, and our Secretary was directed to acquaint Mr Dangereux with the Circumstances of the Detention and the resolution passed for confiscating the Salt on a certain day

10 Mr Dangereux in his answer expressed his hope that the Board would not proceed with so much vigour towards Monsr Le Forrestier, to whom the Salt belonged, observed also that Monsr Le Forrestier was not apprized that the Vessels importing Salt should be navigated by Europeans as the Article of the Convention which gave the Liberty of importing certain Quantity of Salt, did not prescribe such Conditions

11 As Mr Dangereux offered no other Plea in excuse for Monsr Le Forrestier, and as that Plea was actually an Evasion of the rule to which Secret Cons 20th Decr he himself admitted that the Importation of Coast Salt by the French is subject, we did not alter our resolution for confiscating the Salt brought in the Gopaul Samy. It certainly may be urged that the 12th Article of the Convention makes no

mention of importing Salt brought in Ships or Vessels only that are commanded or navigated by Europeans but as in the Discussions between Mr Le Vicompte De Souillae and Lt Coll Cathcart the former expressly agrees to confirm Mr Dangereux's acceptance of the Proposal made to him respecting Salt in which acceptance that Condition is included we consider it as much in force as if expressly included in the Convention.

12 We have the Honor to refer you to our Proceedings of the 29th Ultimo for a compleat reply made by Mr Charles Grant the Commercial Resident at Malda to a Complaint preferred against him on several Points by the French Gomastah at that Place We have transmitted the substance of it to Mr Dangereux and requested as many idle and ill founded representations are constantly made against the Servants of the Company

1st That the Persons making them should previously communicate the Matter of them to those against whom they are directed

2nd That they should be accompanied with Proofs

3rdly Expressed in Clear and definite terms particularly that they specify in regard to obstructions to Trade whether it is an intercourse with the Company's *Manufacturers* that is prevented or an intercourse with *Manufacturers not the Company's*

4thly That if false Accusations are preferred the Employers of the Persons making them shall punish those Persons.

13 We have desired the Board of Trade to acquaint Mr Charles Grant that his Vindication of himself against the Charges of the French

Gomastah at Malda is extremely satisfactory and that the Cons. 11th Decr whole Tenor of his Conduct on the occasion of it meets with our entire approbation. We have declared ourselves also much pleased with the Testimony which Mr Grant has afforded in the course of his Vindication to the Uniform Propriety which has marked the Character of his Assistant Mr Udooy whose Proceedings made a part of it.

14 The Board of Revenue having transmitted to us a Letter written by the Resident at Jellapore to Mr Baytard who is stationed on the Part of the French at Mohunpore protesting against the Right exercised by him of hoisting the French Flag at that Place which however we had no reason to suppose was afterwards discontinued we have desired the Board of Revenue to ascertain and report to us where French
Cons 11th Decr Flags are now hoisted that we may be enabled to judge whether our resolution to limit their Number to those belonging to the Six Original Factories has been properly attended to

15 The following Points were submitted by the Collector of Government Customs at Dacca to the Board of Revenue and by them to us.

1st Are Duties under the Signature of Mr Dangereux or any of the other French Agents in pass in free Circulation for Imports and Exports to every Part of the Country as well as to and from Chandernagore

2nd Are Invoices of French Goods to be delivered into the Office of the Collector of Government Customs at Dacca and transmitted to the

Collector of Government Customs at Houghly, or are their Boats to pass free, on simply exhibiting Dustucks?

3rd Are the French to pay a Duty of only $2\frac{1}{2}$ P. Cent upon every kind of Goods without any exception to Beetlenutt and Tobacco, or are those Articles to pay the Duty of 90 Sa. Rs. P. % Maunds, now collected thereon from all other Merchants?

16 Having duly considered the references thus made to us our Determination on them has been as follows:

On the 1st. By the 13th and 14th Articles of the Convention the Agent of the French Nation and the Chiefs of the different Factories and Houses of Commerce, which we understand to mean the residencies of Individuals, are entitled to grant Dustucks on Goods imported into or exported from Chandernagore only

We do not admit that French Goods covered by French Dustucks are entitled to a free Circulation in every part of the Country unless imported from Chandernagore

On the 2nd With respect to the 2d Point in reference, the 14th Article of the Convention specifies that Invoices shall accompany the said Dustucks which Invoices shall be carried to the Custom House at Houghly or to any other established by the Government of Bengal beyond the Territory of Chandernagore By this we understand that we have a right to claim from the French the delivery of their Invoices at any of the Established Government Custom Houses either at Houghly, Moorshedabad, Dacca or Patna The Collectors of Government Customs are therefore to be enjoined to call for them and to transmit them to the Collector of Government Customs at Houghly.

On the 3rd On the 3rd Point in reference from Mr. Williams we are of Opinion and have resolved that the French should pay the same Duties as are collected from all other Merchants in the Articles of Beetle-Nutt and Tobacco Vizt 90 Sa Rs. P. % Maunds.

17 These Resolutions having been communicated to Mr. Dangereux, he has objected to that which does not admit that French Goods covered by French Dustucks are entitled to a free Circulation in every part of the Country unless exported from Chandernagore A Copy of our Letter to Mr Dangereux dated 20th November on this and the other Subjects of our Resolutions, and a Copy of his answer to it dated the 30th are transmitted to you numbers in the Packet

18. A Warrant grounded upon the Depositions of eight witnesses having been issued by Sir William Jones one of his Majesty's Judges to apprehend a Person named La Cosse who escaped from a Guard that was bringing him down from Dinapore to be tried in the Supreme Court of Judicature on Suspicion of his having murdered a Native named Chingi, we wrote to the Foreign Settlements to request that, as an Act of Public and General Justice, they would cause enquiry to be made if the said La Cosse was concealed at any of their Factories or living under the Protection of their Flags, and if he should be discovered that they would cause

him to be seized apprizing us at the same time thereof when proper officers would] he sent to receive Charge of him that he might be brought to Calcutta and be tried in the Snpreme Court for the heinous offence laid to his Charge

19 Mr Dangereux has acquainted us that La Cousse is at Chander nagore and that he has put him in Confinement and Irons bnt some Difficulties have occurr d in the form of Proceeding the Man being under the Protection of the French Flag and we are by no means certain that he will be given up to be tried in the Snpreme Court

Dutch

20 The Director and Council at Chinsurah having been informed on the 24th July last that we proposed to make some regulations in respect to the Weavers at the different Aurungs and then Cons. 20th Novr promised a Copy of them we have transmitted one to them and observed that if any Alteration should hereafter be made in those Rules such alteration shall be communicated to them

Danes

21 We informed you in our Advices by the Swallow (Para 73) that Mr Duntzfelt who was depnted to this Presidency by the Council at Fredericksnagore had transmitted to us a Copy of the regulations he wished us to adopt in the Collection of the Government Duties on the Danish trade, and that we had referred them to the Board of Revenue Their answer is recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th ultimo

22 Having contrasted the regulations snbmitted to us by Mr Duntzfelt with those which were passed by this Government on the 12th October 1785 we observed that except in two instances very few Deviations were required bnt as these were likely to affect the Custom House Authority and to prejudice the equality so necessary to the free Circulation of Trade we did not think it proper to agree to them.

23 As Mr Duntzfelt remarked that the Alterations desired in the former regulations were trivial we concluded that the Danish Trade could not suffer materially by our not adopting them besides the reasons which we assigned to Mr Duntzfelt for not doing so we urged that whatever Indulgence we might grant to the Danes in the Collection of Duties would be immediately followed by an Application for a similar Indnlgence to other Nations.

24 Mr Duntzfelt has sent an answer to this Letter bnt we have not yet taken it into Consideration.

MILITARY

25 Lientt General Sloper, late Commander in Chief of his Majesty's

and the Company's Forces in India, and late a Member of the Superior Government, proceeds to England in the Ship under dispatch. After the Honourable Testimony borne by your Hon'ble Court in your General Letter of the 12th April 1786, to the Services rendered to the Company by General Sloper while he had the Command of Your Army, it would seem superfluous to convey to you our own, but as to pass the occasion which offers, on the General's Departure, to declare the acknowledgements which his Conduct merits might carry the appearance of Disregard to it, while severally and collectively we entertain the greatest respect for the Abilities, Fidelity, and Honor with which he managed the Military Affairs belonging to his Department and assisted in the Administration of the Civil Government we are sure you will permit our Evidence to stand on your records in high and deserved applause of the General's Conduct and Services, and in support, if our Support is not improper of your Sense of them.

26 We think it necessary to acquaint you that General Sloper has not received the Sum of one thousand Pounds Sterling which you have ordered for defraying the Expence of his Passage and that he is therefore entitled to the Payment of it in England.

27 Our Proceedings of the 24th Ultimo to which we beg leave to refer contain an Extract of a Letter which we have received from the President and Council at Bombay under date the 5th October last on the Subject of the Military Establishment which you have directed to be kept up at that Presidency and which they conceive will encrease the Expence of their Army nearly 4 Lacks of Rupees P Annum, which additional Expence they declare themselves to be unable to defray

28 They have therefore postponed the execution of your Commands until the receipt of Instructions from us, and have urged the Expediency of our making a Provision for these additional Charges, declaring it to be their Opinion that the intended Military Establishment is not more than barely sufficient for the safety of Bombay should a War break out with France

29 The same Letter contains a detail of the Proceedings of your President and Council at Bombay for paying off the Arrears due to their Army in Consequence of the Plan of the late Governor General recorded on the Proceedings of the 8th November 1785

30 The Arrears already ascertained to be due and paid to their European and Native Troops below the rank of a European Commissioned Officer, amount in the Aggregate to the Sum of Rupees 7,56,315-2-86, and those to the Subaltern Officers have been liquidated by Bills on Bengal for one Moiety and the other Moiety is to be paid in Cash

31 The Captains, Field, and Staff Officers of the Bombay Establishment having been called on to accept Certificates to be exchanged for Bengal Bonds, in Liquidation of the Arrears due to them, are said to have unanimously refused to accept those Terms, and the Gentlemen at Bombay determined in Consequence to draw Bills on us for the Amount on the same terms on which they have drawn in favor of the Subalterns, dating

their Bills on the 1st July last and making them payable in eight months after date

32 Altho this measure is unwarranted by our Orders and indeed a positive Deviation from them has embarrassed us very considerably by affording very strong Grounds of Complaint to the Captains and Field Officers under the Presidency of Fort St. George who were entitled to partake of every Indulgence which might be shewn to those of Bombay we have yet been induced to accept the Bills which have been presented in Consideration of the Effect which so strong a Measure as that of suffering them to be protested might produce upon the future Credit of Government upon any unforeseen Emergency

33 We have not yet taken the other parts of the Letter from Bombay into our Consideration but shall communicate our resolutions upon the Points in reference to us at an early Period

34. The rate of Exchange at which such Certificates as have been issued by the Bombay Government for their Military Arrears shall be exchanged for Bengal Bouda has been fixed at Current Rs. 124-14-5 for 100 Bombay Rupees.

35 A Copy of the report of our Milly Pay Master General on the Subject of the Claim made by the Executors of the late Capt. Spelman was sent a Number in the Dispatch by the Swallow This report with all the other Papers tending to elucidate the Subject has lately been referr'd to the Advocate Genl who has given it as his opinion that it is not possible for the Executors to substantiate their demand in an Action at Law and that they would have great difficulty even with the Aid of a Court of Equity to establish many of the Charges contained in the Bill which they have presented to the Company but that they would be entitled to recover every Article which they could prove to have been actually supplied, and to have a decree for the Balance if found in their favor altho they would in his opinion have no Claim to Interest either in Law or Equity, the delay of Payment having been occasioned by the neglect of Capt. Spelman to furnish any Vouchers or even Bills for his Disbursements, altho called on to render an Account of the Money advanced him to raise his Troop so long ago as the Mouth of August 1762

36 Under these Circumstances the Advocate Genl. has recommended that two or four Persons may be mutually nominated by us and by the Attornies to Capt Spelman's Executors to receive any Evidence which may be offered to examine the Milly records and after a full Investigation of the Claim to state to us the result thereof and the Opinion which they shall have formed upon the whole or separate Articles of the Bills together with the Grounds of these Opinions

37 We have adopted Mr Davis's proposition and have appointed the Accountant General and Commissary General to investigate this Intricate subject on the part of the Company

38 In the 118 Para. of our Letter under date the 11th Ultimo we acquainted you that we had required the Pay Masters of the Army to

state to us forthwith all objections which they might have to retrenchment from their Accounts so that every Instance of this Kind might come before us at once. They have accordingly done so, and Cons. 24th Novr their different representations on this Subject appear on our Proceedings noted in the Margin.

39 Our resolutions upon them have been founded upon the Principles of General Justice, and are calculated as well to prevent any improper and unauthorized Payments from being carried to the Company's Debit, as to secure the Pay Masters from loss on Account of retrenchments which their Situation or Circumstances removed them from the possibility of recovering

40 They have been required to give an Account upon Oath of retrenchments recovered as well as those outstanding, and such parts of them are to be remitted as come within the following Descriptions

41 If any Pay Master's Accounts shall have been retained more than four Months in the Commy. General's Office, and they can prove such Detention to have rendered the retrenchments irrecoverable they shall be remitted.

42. Pay Masters shall not be answerable for retrenchments against officer who have died Insolvent, except in Cases where the Payments were absolutely unwarrantable

43 If Officers have returned to Europe without proper Certificates first obtained from their Pay Masters, such Paymasters shall not be answerable for retrenchments against them

44. If Paymasters can make it appear that references and appeals made by Officers to the Commissary General or Board have delayed or not heard in reasonable time, and by such delays the Pay Master has at last been unable to recover any retrenchment, he shall be exonerated One Month shall be considered as a reasonable time for any reference before the Commissary General, and two Months for references to the Board

45 Any retrenchments from want of Certificates or of certain Official Signatures shall be admitted on reaudit, if the proper Officers of Government are satisfied that the Disbursement has been made and that it is reasonable

46 The removal of a Paymaster from office can in no degree do away his responsibility

47. If there are any Retrenchments against Paymasters which the Persons appointed to investigate those now brought forward, may think ought to be admitted on reaudit by reason of any Particular Circumstances in favor of the Paymasters but which do not come within any of the Cases now supposed, and if it shall appear to the same Persons that any particular Payments have been made whereto these would apply as a Ground for remitting the retrenchments, but which have been made in Contradiction to regulations so evidently clear as not to admit of Misinterpretation of them such Instances must be reported to us for our final Decision

48 The Reaudit of the several retrenchments against the Pay Masters upon these Grounds and the report to be made thereon has been committed to the Military Pay Master Genl. and Commissary General and Stoppages are in future to be made from the Officers in the 1st Instance for whatever Sums may be retrenched by the Commissary General

49 Our Consultations of the 24th November contain a Letter from the Military Paymaster General under date the 12th October last proposing to us a New Arrangement in his Department in Consequence of the Change which has lately taken Place in the Military Establishment

50 We refer you to our Proceedings for the detail of our Resolutions on this Subject and shall content ourselves in this place with acquainting you that you have resolved that there shall be a Pay Master and Deputy at each of the following Stations Vixt The Presidency Berhampore Dinapore Chunarghur Cawnpore and Futtighur and that there shall be a Pay Master of Artillery and Garrisons who shall be allowed a Deputy as a necessary Assistant to attend to the Duties of the Office in case of the Pay Master's Sickness or Absence

51 One Person is to do the Duties of Paymr to two Stations and is to be allowed on this Consideration to draw for each Station every Personal Allowance and the Establishment of office which the existing regulations have granted to the Paymaster of a Brigade and the Pay Master of Artillery and Garrison is admitted to draw the Allowances of a Paymaster in both Capacities

52 At the expiration of two Years the Paymasters of Stations are to relinquish their Office and repair to the Presidency for the express Purpose of finally adjusting their Accounts with the Military Paymaster General and when this is done they may be ordered at the Pleasure of the Government to take Charge of any Paymastership except that which they have just left

53 Our further Arrangements in this Department appear in the Copy of our resolutions which attends you a Number in the Packet We have agreed in Consideration of the Diminution which has taken Place in the Paymaster's allowances since the period when they are required to give Security to the Company in two Lacks of Rupees, and because such Security is not now necessary on account of the strict regulations that are in use to reduce a Paymaster's Security to one Lack of Rupees and to fix that for a Deputy at fifty thousand

54 The Accountant General's Report upon the Balance of the Off Reckoning Fund in the hands of the Military Paymaster General is recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th Ultimo and Mr Hinchman has given us sufficient security for his Compliance with our Resolutions communicated to you in the 115 Para. of our Letter by the Swallow which directed that one half of the Balance in his hands should be paid into the Treasury on the 20th of January and the other half on the 20th of April next

55 We have lately had the Honour to Communicate to you some alterations which had been resolved on in the terms of Mr Whitwell's

Engagements with the Company for supplying Elephants, for the Carriage of Camp Equipage, Mr Whitwell having afterwards proposed to us an unconditional Resignation of his Contract, his offer was accepted and Arbitrators were appointed on his part, and on the part of the Company to determine what he should receive for his Elephants

56 Lieut Colonel Murray and Mr Wilson the Gentlemen who acted on this Occasion were informed that against the Monthly allowance which Mr Whitwell had already received, the only Sum to be charged was as a part of the Expence which the Company had actually incurred by a Continuance of the Tent Allowance to certain Officers and Corps since the 1st May. Mr Whitwell not being to avail himself of the Plea of the Tents not being ready, unless he should make it appear clearly that he had Carriage actually prepared for the Conveyance of the Camp Equipage, the Arbitrators being to determine what part of this Expence should be considered as appertaining to the Tent, and what to the Carriage of it

57 The Military Paymaster General and Commissary General were directed jointly to ascertain what this amount might be, and it was declared to be the business of the Arbitrators to judge from the Documents to be produced by Mr Whitwell if he was deficient in his Engagement, and if the Charge should therefore come against him

58 As Mr Whitwell had entered into Engagements for the purchase of some Cattle, it was but reasonable that the Company should make him a Compensation equal to the amount of the Penalty which he might make it appear that he is obliged to pay for a release from his existing Engagements for Cattle and the Arbitrators were instructed to determine the amount of this Compensation which was to be deducted from the advance first received by Mr Whitwell who was required to repay the difference

59 The award of the arbitrators has been delivered in and has met with our approbation of it, and we have accordingly resolved that the Sum of Sonat Rupees 12,819 with which Mr Whitwell has been declared chargeable as his proportion of the Expence of Sonat Rupees 22,024 which has been or will be actually paid by the Company at certain Stations of the Army at a period when Mr Whitwell had no Carriage prepared should be remitted in full Compensation for the Penalty which he may be obliged to pay for a release from his existing Engagements for Elephants

60 The Six Months advance paid to Mr Whitwell in February last Vizt Current Rupees 80,620 has been Ordered to be restored in new paper to the Military Pay Master General, and his agreement with the Company was considered to cease at the end of the last Month A Copy of the Proceedings of the article above is transmitted a number in the Packet.

61 A Fixed monthly allowance will be hereafter granted to the Field Staff and European Commissioned Officers of the Six Sepoy Brigades in Consideration of which they are to provide their own Camp Equipage and Carriage under the following Regulations

1st. That the Monthly allowance to each Rank, and which is to be drawn in arrear shall be as follows

A Lieut Colonel Pr Month	Sa Rs	150
A Major		120
A Captain		75
A Subaltern and Assistant Surgeon		50
Brigade Majors and Quarter Masters to draw as Captains.		

Adjutants of Battalions to draw as Subalterns. An Extra allowance of 30 Rs. Pr Month to be granted to the Brigade Major to furnish and carry a small Office Tent

2dly These allowances are to be drawn in all Situations whether in the Field or in Cantonments that Officers may be prepared at all times to move on the shortest notice

2dly That the Tent allowance be confined to Officers and Surgeons specifically appointed to Sepoy Battalions or Brigades.

3rd That in Order to preserve Uniformity in the Encampment of Corps the Tents of the Officers in the several ranks of Captains and Subalterns shall be agreeable to the following dimensions and that no Officer of these Ranks shall take more than one Marque into the Field

	Length	Breadth	the Poles	Height
Captains	23 feet	15	10	12
Subalterns	} 14	14		11
Square with one pole				

4thly That Officers in Command of Battalions of Sepoys whether of the Rank of Major or Captain shall only draw the allowance specified for a Captain

5thly That Captains serving on Lieutenants Pay shall only draw the allowances of Subalterns

6thly That any Casualty which may place a Subaltern or Captain serving on Subalterns allowances in the Temporary Command of a Corps shall not give him a Claim to the allowance of a Captain.

7thly That Officers appointed to Sepoy Brigades or Battalions shall commence drawing the Tent allowance from the date only of their joining the Corps

8thly That no inconvenience may arise to the Service from Officers who receive this allowance neglecting to provide themselves with Camp Equipage and Carriage the Commanding Officers of Battalions are to review them Monthly at Muster and insert a remark in their Monthly returns if any Officer is not properly supplied. Quarterly Surveys and Reports must also be made under the Inspection of the Commanding Officer of the Brigade or Station who as well as the Commanding Officers of Battalions will be held responsible for enforcing a strict Obedience to these Regulations and seeing that the public service is duly provided for

9thly That the several allowances above specified shall commence to be drawn from the 1st of January 1787.

10thly. That the allowance above specified shall include the Provision of Bheasties and Sweepers for the Officers, except in the Cantonnments of Berhampore and Dinapore where the Contractor for the repairs being engaged to supply them, the Indulgence will of course be continued to the Officers during the present Contract

11thly. That as in Consequence of these Resolutions a very considerable reduction may be made of the Lascars, Artificers etc. attached to Battalions of Sepoys and those composing the Establishment of the Quarter Masters of the Sepoy Brigades. The future Establishments shall be fixed as follows :

For a Sepoy Battalion

- 4 Sircars
- 1 Tindal
- 12 Lascars
- 1 Mistry Smith
- 1 Fireman
- 2 Hammermen
- 2 Mistry Armourers
- 1 Carpenter
- 2 Sicklegars
- 1 Sail Maker
- 2 Chucklers
- 6 Bildars
- 2 Hackeries
- 8 Doolies when on a march

For the Quarter Master of a Sepoy Brigade

- 1 Tindal
- 12 Lascars
- 1 Carpenter
- 1 Fireman
- 1 Fileman
- 1 Hammerman
- 6 Bildars
- 6 Coolies

12thly That these Reduced Establishments shall take place with every Sepoy Corps and Brigade from the 1st of February next, when all people Supernumerary thereto shall be discharged.

63. Our Advertisement for Proposals for a Contract for Furnishing Elephants, and Camels to perform the Service now under the Management of Mr Ramus is already before you. The proposals which were consequently submitted to us were opened and Read in Council on the 1st Inst and were then referred to the Accountant General that they might deliver in a comparative Statement of them.

64. The Report made by these Gentlemen is transmitted to you a Number in the Packet as we were of Opinion on the whole that the proposals of Mr George Urquhart Lawrie upon the first plan held forth in our Advertisement of the 11th October (by which the Elephants remain the property of the Company) were the most advantageous We agreed to accept them and have accordingly instructed the Company's Attorney to prepare the draft of a Contract to be entered into with that Gentleman

65 A Copy of Mr Lawrie's Letter and of the proposals alluded to in it attend you a Number in the Packet and the Saving derived to the Company on a Comparison of the Terms offered by Mr Lawrie with those under which Mr Ramus's Contract is hold is stated by the Accomptant General and Commissary General to amount to Two Lacks and One Thousand Sicca Rupees in the three years during which Mr Lawrie's Contract is to remain in Force

66 We had the honor to communicate to you by the Swallow our proceedings upon the Subject of your Orders of the 8th March last in regard to the Distribution of the Rohilla Donation. The Resolutions which we have adopted with a view of screening the Company from all future Loss or Vexatious Law Suits on this Account will appear in our reference to our Proceedings of the 24th November A Copy of these Resolutions is also transmitted a Number in the Packet

67 You were informed by our Advices by the Ranger that in Consequence of the Official Rank which you have been pleased to annex to the Staff appointments of Quarter Master General Adjutant General their Deputies, and Majors of Brigades in your General Letter of the 21st September 1785 the late administration had come to a Resolution of granting these Officers Rank in the Army from a fixed Period and as it was intended to publish a List of the Army by authority for General Information they had directed the Adjutant General to prepare a List for this Purpose that the Board might be certain of the accuracy of the List given to the Public under the Sanction of their authority They judged it expedient to submit it to the Secretary to the Military Department of Inspection for Examination and Collation with the Original Records in his Office.

Consn

6th Novemr

68 From the Representation contained in Colonel Kyd's Letter of the 25th October and Instructions required by him for his guidance in the mode of ranking the Staff Officers in the General List of the Army It was judged expedient to postpone carrying into Execution our Resolution of the 4th July already quoted until further deliberation as noticed in our Advices by the Swallow and upon maturely Considering the Consequences stated by the Secretary to the Military Department of Inspection which must flow from granting the Staff Officers above mentioned rank in the Army from a fixed period We are of opinion that your Intention in granting this Official Rank to the Staff appointments in Question was principally with a View to annex the Emoluments only of such Rank to the Officer holding it, and that the

Operation of the Resolution of the 4th July would entail a Breach of the Military Constitution of the Army under this Government, as ascertained by the Presidents Established by the Court of Directors and former administrations, independent of its amounting to an Infringement of the late Act of Parliament which provides against all Supercession.

69. On these considerations, We have now judged it expedient to suspend the Resolution of the 4th of July until we receive your further Orders upon the subject, and as no Commissions can be granted to Officers holding Superior Rank in Consequence of the late Military Regulations until the Receipt of your Commands, We request that your Communication of them may be speedy

70 The Letter from the Secretary to the Military Department of Inspection to which We beg leave to refer is recorded on
 Consn
 6th November our Consultations noted in the Margin

71 A Question having been referred to our decision by the Secretary in the Military Department of Inspection in Respect to the Rank of Lieut Col Alexander Murray We have directed that he shall be ranked in the List of the Army as a Captain on this Establishment and a Major of Brevet while on the Island of Sumatra, with a Note shewing that he was appointed a Lieutenant Colonel by the President and Council at Fort Marlbro' until your pleasure should be known

72 Captain Pearson of the Establishment of Fort Marlbro' has obtained our permission to return to Europe on half Pay on the terms of the 87th paragraph of your General Letter of the 21st September 1785

73 Captain Andrew Davidson who lately obtained our Permission to return to Europe on half Pay has been admitted (on his application, and a Certificate that he is from ill Health incapable of further Service) to the benefit of the late Lord Clive's Military Fund.

74 Brevet Ensign William Troop who served the Company during twenty seven Years has obtained our Permission to return to Europe on a Foreign Ship of this Season on the half Pay of his rank He has informed us that he would prefer retiring upon the Pension, but from an apprehension that the Climate of England may not agree with his Constitution after so long a residence in India, and as we understand that Mr Troop has served with Credit to himself, and Fidelity to his Employers we recommend it to your Honble Board to admit him to the benefit of the Military Fund should he make application to you for that purpose after his arrival in England

75 The following Officers have been permitted to return to Europe on half pay since the date of our last advices

Lieut Fredk William Griffiths
 „ Jas Simon Ewart
 „ Peter Tolfrey
 „ Samuel Cooper
 Ensign Anningson.

76 Lieutenant Lewellyn who obtained our permission to return to Europe on half pay on the 2nd October but has since desired to be allowed to withdraw his application and his request has been complied with.

77 In Consequence of a reference which has lately been made to us by the Commissary General in regard to a charge of Doolies which had been authorized by the Hospital Board We thought it
 Consn. necessary to acquaint them that it had been considered
 24th Novemr as an invariable rule of this Government that no Subordinate Boards or Committees should take upon them to alter Establishments fixed by our authority or by that of the Commander in Chief that the assumption of such authority ought to expose them to the Consequence of being charged for every Expence it has created and that any alterations which might produce an increase of Expence to the Company however necessary to be incurred should come recommended by them but should not take effect til they had received our approbation

78 The Hospital Board have since addressed us in explanation of the motives which induced them to conceive themselves warranted to authorize charges of the nature of those in Question and have been informed that as the necessary Servants for the Hospitals at the several Stations of the Army were heretofore supplied by the Surgeons on the Established allowances they received and were subsequently to form a part of the Charges in the Purveyors Disbursements, the Charge upon them came properly within the line of their authority in Conformity to our Resolutions of the 16th of June last and could not interfere with any formerly authorized Establishments but that the Artillery Doolies were not charges belonging to the Account either of the Purveyor or apothecary but were provided for by the express authority of Government and no alteration should of course have been made in them without our sanction previously obtained

79 The Hospital Board appealed in their Justification to that article of Instructions received from your Hon ble Court which specifies their appointments to be for the purpose of directing the necessary regulations and arrangements for all the Hospitals of the Presidency We did not however conceive that any thing therein contained could be construed to delegate a Power to them to authorize expences in any branch of the Medical Department not put under their Check and Control by our Express authority and our Instructions of the 23rd of May last having directed them to submit to the Commander in Chief and finally to the Board such regulations as they might deem necessary for their department We have repeated this Order and acquainted them that it is to be implied as carrying with it the effect of an Order to revise the whole of the regulations which were in force before the arrival of your late Instructions respecting the Medical Department that they may point out what appears to them to be thereby annulled and what further arrangements may be necessary to give complete efficacy to the system now in use.

80. We have the honor to transmit to you a Number in the Packet an Address to your Hon'ble Court from Mr Robert Wilson an Assistant Surgeon on this Establishment praying to be restored to the Rank which he lost in consequence of your Orders of the 16th March 1784, for removing from the Service many of the Assistant Surgeons appointed in the Country in the Course of the Years 1782 and 1783.

81 As Mr. Wilson's situation in Consequence of the Capture of the Blandford appears to be peculiarly distressing We can not but recommend his request to your favorable consideration.

82 Mr Gillies Secretary to the Hospital Board, who has served upwards of Sixteen years as a Surgeon on this Establishment, has requested our permission to return to Europe on Furlough for three Years, and to be allowed during that time to draw his full Pay in Bengal, but as no provision is made by your late Orders for any allowances to Surgeons going home on leave of Absence, We have not considered ourselves at liberty to comply with his request

83 Mr Gillies has been informed that he has our permission to return to Europe on leave of Absence, and that the Question in regard to his allowances would be referred to your decision. We request that we may be informed of your determination on this Subject to serve as a Guide in any future applications of a similar nature

84 Mr Bingham (an Assistant Surgeon on this Establishment) has desired leave to return to Europe on Furlough on the half pay of his rank, and our decision on his application has necessarily been the same, as on that of Mr Gillies.

85. Our decision on the Claim of Mr. Murray and Mr Boyd to rank
 Consn above Mr. Balfour in the Medical Line appears upon the
 29th Novemr proceedings noted in the Margin.

86 We forward to you by the William Pitt our Indent for Medicines from the Hospital Board, and request that it may be complied with

87. We have the honor to transmit to you a number in the Packet a Letter addressed to us by the Quarter Master General, whose Office was abolished on receipt of your Orders of the 11th April 1785, and re-established in consequence of your advices by the Talbot

88 As Lieut Col Macpherson performed the duties of Quarter Master General without Salary from the 1st October 1785, till the 11th May last, and as he conceived that the abolition of his appointment had been occasioned by some Error of Office, and not by design, he has solicited us to Order payment of his Staff Allowance etc during the time when it was discontinued and has offered to give his Bond for the repayment of the amount should he be required by your Hon'ble Court.

89. We have not agreed to Coll. Macpherson's request because we conceive it to be contrary to the Spirit of your Orders in the Case of Sir John Day but as his claim appears to be very reasonable we recommend it to your favorable consideration,

90 The Reverend Mr Goddard who came to India with Lieut General Sioper and has since been appointed Chaplain to the 4th European Battalion has solicited our permission to return to Europe on account of ill health on leave of absence for such time and such Pay as we may think proper to grant him

91 As our Regulations do not provide for the Case of Chaplains who may wish to return home on leave of absence We have informed Mr Goddard that his request cannot be complied with but that he has our leave to resign the Service We recommend his readmission to his present Station whenever he may apply to you for that Indulgence

92 A Letter from the Commissary General Mr Robinson recorded on our Proceedings of the 13th March last in the Public Department and written immediately on his receiving Charge of that Office Conveyed information to us of the State of the arrears of unadited accounts at that period. These being numerous the Board were induced to adopt one of two Modes pointed out by Mr Robinson of having them Completely brought up by granting an Extra allowance to the Deputy Commissary General Mr Wilson and first and second Assistants in the office of 250 Rupees pr Mensem each provided the work should be completed within twelve Months which they were to perform under the Commissary General's inspection and allowing the Commissary General an Increase of Establishment for this express purpose to the amount of 750 Rupees per Month.

93 We have now the pleasure to acquaint you that Mr Robinson has reported to us that the Audit of the Accounts in Arrear is completely brought up and the examination of the accounts which have formed the Current business of the Office so regularly carried on that the Disbursements for one Month of each Poymaster have been generally audited before those of the succeeding one have come into the Office

94 As the Commissary General has borne Testimony to the Zealous exertions of his Deputy Mr Wilson and his assistants Mr Rayo and Mr Bulkely in the execution of the Duty then assigned to them which has been completed considerably within the time limited we have agreed to continue to these Gentlemen the Extra allowance of 250 Rs pr Month which was originally granted them till the expiration of the twelve Months but the additional Establishment of Native Writers ceased from the end of last Month

95 We cannot omit the occasion which has thus presented itself of doing that Justice which they deserve to the assiduity and Talents which mark the Character of Mr Robinson His Conduct since his appointment to the Charge of the Commissary General's Office in March last has been such as to merit our warmest approbation of it and will we hope ensure to him that Encouragement from your Honble Court which is so justly due to those Officers in your Service who are Zealous and disinterested in the performance of their Public Duty

96 As the Circumstance which created the necessity of this Extra Expence might possibly give rise to an apprehension that there had been

an Inattention in this important Department of your Service formerly, we think it proper to call your attention to that part of Mr Robinson's Letter which explains very fully the causes to which it was owing that the audit of the Military Accounts had fallen in Aricar, and we are pleased that he has furnished that Explanation because we can give our Testimony to the Constant assiduity of Mr Murray, and therefore though it might not be necessary to afford that Information to us, the Subject should in strict Justice to Mr Murray be pointed out to your notice

Reforms

97 In Consequence of a Letter addressed to us by the Accountant General, which you will find recorded on our Proceedings of the 27th Ultimo we have passed the following Resolutions.

98. That the Public Accounts do exhibit the Names of the Persons granting Discharges for the acknowledgements issued for the Public Debts, and that the Sub Treasurer be directed to observe this Rule in every entry made in the Treasury Accounts for the Payment of Money

99. That the Sub Treasurer do transmit to the Accountant General's Office a Voucher for the Payment of every Sum charged as made by him in like manner as the other Officers of Government whose accounts are audited by the Accountant General

100. That the Holders of the Hon'ble Company's Bonds do tender them at the Accountant General's Office granting an Endorsement thereon agreeable to a form No 2 recommended by the Accountant General, that they be furnished by him with an Order upon the Sub Treasurer agreeable to another Form No 3 and that the Sub Treasurer be directed to require the Holders of the Hon'ble Companys Bonds to produce such Orders ere he discharges the annual Interest becoming due thereon.

101 That the Sub Treasurer be directed to call upon Lieutenant Colonel White to deliver up the Bond No 1792 dated 3rd April 1781, for Current Rupees 20,000, and to refund the Interest which was paid on 21st November 1785, and 13th April 1786

102 That the Board of Revenue be directed daily to pay into the General Treasury the amount received by them in the preceeding day which was not disbursed in defraying the charges of their Department, confining their Payments to even Sums of not less than Ten thousand Sicca Rupees, and that they be directed to require the Superintendants of the Salt and Opium Manufactures, the Companys Custom Master, and the Collector of Government Customs of Calcutta to pay the Balances of Cash in their Hands into the Khalsa Treasury whenever it shall amount to ten Thousand Sicca Rupees,

103. That the Board of Trade be directed to pay into the General

Treasury the amount received by them on Account of their Import Sales whenever it shall be equal to Ten Thousand Current Rupees

104 That the several Officers of Government entrusted with the Issue and discharge of Paper be directed to conform to the practice suggested by the Accountant General Vizt. that the Paper advertized for Payment on 20th November may continue to be taken up until 2 P.M. of Tuesday 28th the Officers to make up their accounts of Payment on Wednesday 20th delivering up the Vouchers to be checked at this Office with these Accounts and delivered up to the Secretary that the Board may be satisfied of their having been completely cancelled and that the same be made known to the Holders of Paper in the next Gazette

105 That all applications on pecuniary Subjects which do not regard either Military or Political Transactions with Foreign Nations be made to the Board in the Public Department

106 As the Business allotted to the Secret Department of Reform will be closed when the Civil and Military Regulations and Establishments actually passed and agreed to shall have been collected and laid before the Board according to their Resolutions of the 20th September that the Statements and Papers usually recorded in it and not appertaining to the Secret Department or any Branch of it are to be then Transferred and entered on the Public Proceedings according to the Recommendation of the Accountant General

107 We have the honor to transmit to You a Number in the Packet Copy of a Letter addressed to us on the 7th Instant by Mr James Grant together with a Copy of the Manuscript accompanying it which completes the Treatise in part executed and laid before us in April and transmitted to your Honble Court entitled An Historical and comparative Analysis of the Finances of the Sonbah of Bengal from the Mogul Conquest to the present time ¹ This Continuation of the Analysis has been so lately received that we have not yet had time to consider it with the attention it may deserve

108 Altho' our Proceedings already communicated to you in the first part of this address on the Subject of the Retrenchments from Paymasters accounts and the Contract for Elephants and Camels entered into with Mr Lawtie are recorded in the Military Department they form very material parts of our General Plan of Reform and on that account we think it proper to call your attention to them in this Plan

They are recorded on our Consultations noted in the Margin.

Consn.
11th October
24th Novemr
1st & 6th Decem.

Fort William
the 22nd December 1786
[Per William Pitt]

We have the Honor to be
Hon ble Sirs
Your most faithful Humble Servants.

LETTER DATED 22 DECEMBER 1786

Reported dismissal by Tipu of French ambassador Moreaux—Sidi John dissatisfied at Poona settlement—Jawan Bahht at Benares—Sindia's request for Appa Khanderao to cross the Jamuna—appears on account of Cawnpore and Fatehgarh detachments—vazir's private creditors.

TO the Hon'ble the Secret Committee of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors

Honble Sirs,

1 We have the Honor to forward by the William Pitt our Proceedings in the Political Department from the 30th October to the 6th November with then Index, and a Quadruplicate of the Letter which we addressed to you by the Swallow.

2 The advices we have received from the Resident at Poona since the Dispatch of that Ship detail the Intelligence which had reached him of the Movements of the Maratta [and] Mysore Armies and will be found in our Proceedings noted in the Margin and in Papers sent Nos in the Packet You will observe that the success on both sides has been various and in no Instance important unless it be deemed important to the Marrattas that they possessed themselves in August of a Fort called Bahauder Bundah which surrendered by Capitulation, or important to Tippoo that he has possessed himself of a fort called Shanoor which he obtained without Resistance and within the Distance of two Coss from the Maratta Encampment. Tippoo's forces have twice attempted to surprise the Maratta Army but we do not learn (however Reports may have circulated to the Contrary) with any considerable Effect Certain however, it is that the Marrattas to avoid perhaps the Hazard of an engagement, have of late been continually retreating as the Enemy has approached. The Number of Nizam Ally Cawn's Troops acting with the Marrattas is stated to be about Twenty Thousand

3 Mr Malets European Intelligence in the Marratta Army acquaints him that a Mr Moreaux Ambassador from Pondicherry arrived in Tippoo's Camp in August and was dismissed in the beginning of September We are not apprized of the objects of his Deputation and do not know what dependence to place on the Reports of the News Writer, who says it was affirmed that Mr Moreaux had promised Six Regiments of Europeans to Tippoo and that the King of France had sent him a Ship of war with Guns, Fire arms and Ammunition In a late conversation between Nanna Phurnaveese and Mr Malet Nanna acquainted him that Nizam Ally Cawn had received authentic Intelligence

Enclosure in
Mr Malets
Letter dated
3rd November

Mr Malet's
Letter 3rd
November

that the French had certainly engaged to assist Tippoo both by Sea and Land.

4 Mr Montigny is still at Poona His principal view seems to be to encourage the Notion of an early rupture between the English and French for the purpose probably of separating the Marrattas from the English Interests or providing for possible Events among the advantages which attend the Residence of an English Gentleman at the Court of Poona we may reckon the Counteraction of the Intrigues of French Agents or persons assuming that Character Our last Letter however acquainted you how little we apprehended from them.

5 The Intelligence we have received from Hydrabad is recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th & 29th November
Consn 20th &
29th Novr

6 Our last Letter to the Commee Para 8 mentioned a Representation made by the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn of some Irregularities committed by Servants of the English Company in the District of Cumman Steps were taken by the Madrass Presidency to remove the cause of Complaint upon the 1st Intimation of it and the Nizam in a Letter to the Chief of Masulipatam has shewn his Satisfaction at the attention which was paid to it
Consn 29th Novr

7 Our latest advices from Bombay are dated the 5th October They are Chiefly upon Military Subjects which will be recited in our address to the Honble Court of Directors, for the rest we refer you to them as recorded on our Consultations of the 24th Ultimo
Consn 24th Novr
It seems that Sciddee Johaar as was expected was not satisfied with the Proposal made at Poona for settling the Gingera Disputes and that Mr Malet had been instructed to use his best endeavours to induce the Poona Government to desist from their Plan of Supporting Balloo Meah The President and Council are too well informed we trust of our general Sentiments to proceed too far in the Interference in these opposite Claims We shall repeat our Instructions to them in our next Letter

8 The debt long due to the Rajah of Travencore not having been yet liquidated we shall soon devise means for that purpose We shall also furnish the Gentlemen at Bombay with necessary funds for paying up the arrears due to Hyat Saih in consequence of the orders of the Court of Directors on this subject dated the 1st of February 1780 and to enable them also to continue the monthly payment for his Subsistence

9 The President and Council at Bombay previous to the receipt of the Instructions sent to them by this Government on the 22[] August for withdrawing the Settlement of Diego Garcia which they have promised to comply with as soon as possible had come to Resolution of reducing the Establishment there but not entirely recalling it until they shall receive the final determination of the Court of Directors on the advices from the Chief and Council which were transmitted to them via
Consn. 16th Dec. Bussora as these will therefore be before you and the several Papers we have received on the general subject are entered on our

Proceedings we deem it unnecessary to notice their Contents by a particular recital of them in this address

10 Having acquitted ourselves of one part of our duty in communicating to you the several Informations we have received of proceedings and Occurrences in the other parts of India Since our last Dispatch we shall follow the order usually observed in our Narratives by acquainting you with the Transactions connected with and immediately dependent on the Government of Bengal

11 Our last Letters by the Swallow advised the Committee that we were in expectation of a visit from the Shazada at the Presidency In a Shoka received lately by the Governor General from his Consn. 1st Dec. Royal Highness the Prince declares his Intention of leaving Benares about the end of Suffer which corresponds with the 20th December His Royal Highness being in want of funds to Pay his Expences at Benares we have directed the Resident to advance him the sum of one lack of rupees which will be replaced by the Nabob Vizier in part payment of the arrears due from his Excellency for the Prince's monthly support.

12 A Letter has been lately written to the Governor General by the Sister of the late Nabob Mirza Nijiff Cawn introducing her Consn 29th Novr Vakeel Fuzzell Ally Cawn, to whom she had given full Powers to act on her behalf in all matters relative to her views, which being very evidently to engage the Government in offensive operations to support the wishes of the Prince, and relieve the Shaw Consn. 1st Decr from his Subjection to the Power of Mahajee Scindia, the Governor General was content to acknowledge the Letter without adverting to the subject of it

13 About the middle of last month a request was delivered to Lieutenant Anderson from Mahajee Scindia that Appa Candey Row the Chief whom he had deputed ag[ainst] Bundlecund might be allowed to cross the Jumna with his Party somewhere in the Province of Corah and march a few days by the Banks of the River till he might recross safely into Scindia's Dominions It was stated "that Appa Candy Row having settled Matters with the Rajahs of Bundlecund had in Consequence received from them several Hostages as a security for the Fulfillment of their agreement, that in Confidence of this accommodation he had dispatched the greatest Part of his Troops towards Jahnsey, whilst he himself remained near Purna with a small body of Horse not exceeding two Thousand to wait the final execution of the Treaty, that the Rajahs had taken the advantage of this Circumstance by suddenly assembling all their forces to the Amount of Twenty Thousand and demanding from him a Restitution of the Hostages notwithstanding the terms of their agreement were yet unfulfilled, that in this situation there was great reason to apprehend that Appa would be necessitated to comply and that the most likely mode of avoiding this Evil was by crossing the Jumna etc." As above mentioned Scindia's request was followed by an assurance

that he would be answerable for the orderly behaviour of the Troops during the few days they might remain in the Vizier's Country and that if Mr Anderson would depute any of his Moonshies he would give orders to Appa to put himself under his Guidance as it did not rest with Mr Anderson to give the Permission desired by Mahajee Scindia he represented the Circumstances to the Vizier thro Lieut Colonel Harper who complied with the request but in doing so thought it expedient in order to prevent any improper Conduct in Appa Candy Row that an English Battalion of Sepoys should attend his Motions and for this purpose Directions to Colonel Blair the officer Commanding at Cawnpore were sent to Mr Anderson that he might use them as he should see expedient In the event of Appa Candy Row's actually approaching the Jumna Mr Anderson was desired to acquaint Colonel Blair at what period and Gauth he would probably cross Although at the time when Mr Anderson received the Vizier's Answer it was understood in Scindia's Camp that Appa had been relieved from his Difficulties by having effected his escape with the Bundelcund Hostages to Gwalier Mr Anderson yet thought it necessary to lose no time in Communicating to Scindia the Steps which the Vizier had taken in Compliance with his wishes and therefore sent a Confidential servant to the Durbar to shew him the Vizier's Letters Scindia expressed himself much Satisfied with this Act of Friendship in the Vizier and requested that the Letters might be delivered to him observing that Appa Candy Row was yet in nearly the same Situation of Embarrassment as before but as Mr Anderson's Moonshie had not any Instructions to give them up they were brought back Appajee Pundit was then sent with a request that the Letters might either be given to the Pundit to be forwarded or that Mr Anderson would transmit them himself He thought it necessary however to be cautious and to desire a previous Interview with Scindia His reason for this was that he had still some reason to suspect that notwithstanding the assertions to the contrary Appa Candy Row had in a manner extricated himself from his Difficulties but that Scindia unwilling to lose the advantage of the Preparations that had been made to assist him was desirous of employing them in another Effort against the Bundelcund Country and in case of a Failure to have Instructed Appa to avail himself of the Vizier's Letter This as Mr Anderson observed would have been no less an unfair advantage of the Vizier's Friendship than it was in itself improper for the use that was proposed to be made of his Friendship In the furtherance of their offensive operations was in Effect to make him a party in the War The bare suspicion of such an Intention Mr Anderson considered to be a sufficient Ground for his taking immediate steps to prevent it and he therefore determined to caution Mahajee Scindia openly against it by declaring that in such case the orders would be countermanded Mr Anderson had another motive for desiring a personal Conference with Scindia The order for the Battalion so far from being in any shape

disagreeable to him met with his warmest approbation and Mr. Anderson could not help suspecting that he meant to give a new turn to the matter by proclaiming every where that it had been sent to him as an aid to his offensive operations and thus Inculcating a general Belief throughout Hindustan that we were always determined to assist him ultimately in case any of the Petty Chiefs should prove refractory as it was easily in Scindia's power to produce this effort from the apparent Correspondence between the Fact and the Declaration and as it was in a high degree for the Interest of the Company as well as of the Vizier that this should be prevented Mr Anderson determined to find some pretence for evading a Compliance with regard to the Deputation of the Battalion.

14 In the Interview between Scindia and Lieutenant Anderson, the former admitted that there had been a report of Appa Candy Row's return to Gwaher but declared that, from the last accounts he had received, Appa was still in the same situation as before near the Banks of the Jumna tho' under much less Embarrassment from his having separated the Bonda Raja from the Combination against him that this Circumstance joined to the assistance he had taken care to send him would in all probability enable him to Extricate himself without making use of the Asylum offered by the Vizier, but that as there was a mere Possibility of the existence of such a necessity he hoped that Mr. Anderson would have no objection to his forwarding the Letters Mr Anderson professing all his Doubts removed with respect to Appa Candy Row delivered to Mahajee Sindia the Letter from the Vizier to the Aumil of Corah to be forwarded to Appa for his Eventual use of it, but declined either to give up or Dispatch the Vizier's Letter to Colonel Blair assigning for his Excuse that Colonel Harper, from a necessary caution on these occasions had restricted the Deputation of the Battalion to the Condition of Mr Anderson's informing Colonel Blair exactly of the time when the Troops would cross and at what Place to do which was from the nature of Appa's Situation impossible and as it was an invariable Maxim with the Company never to Separate their Battalions but in Cases of absolute necessity he could not take upon himself to make such a requisition on an occasion that appeared in the highest degree uncertain. With respect to the Vizier's Letter to the Aumil of Corah Mr Anderson deemed it necessary to caution Scindia against entertaining any hopes that it would apply to any other occasion than the present He was assured in answer that if Appa as he almost to a certainty imagined would be the Case, did not make use of the Vizier's Letter it should be returned

15. We acquainted you in the 35 Paragraph of our Last address that we were likely to lose the services of Mr Anderson whose bad state of Health made it necessary for him to proceed to Europe by one of the Ships of this Season It being necessary to determine on the appointment of a Successor to Mr Anderson's office the Governor General recommended Capt. William Kirkpatrick as a proper person to fill that station and to transact in the same manner as Lieutenant

Anderson did such affairs as may occur between Shaw Allum and this Government Capt Kirkpatrick has been appointed accordingly He was furnished with the necessary Letters and lost no time in proceeding to his station where we hope he has arrived before Mr Anderson left it

16 We assure ourselves that Captain Kirkpatrick who has a general Knowledge of our Sentiments and wishes and whose Temper and abilities are we believe well suited to the nature of the trust reposed in him will follow the same firm but accommodating line of conduct which has been observed by Mr Anderson and acquit himself with Credit in the Discharge of his Duty

17 Our last accounts of Hyder Beg Cawn is from Capt. Kennaway who had been deputed by Colonel Harper to attend him to the Presidency It is dated the 9th Instant and mentions that the minister had that day passed from the Vizier's into the Benares Districts He proposed avoiding passing the City of Benares. His Escort consists of One hundred and fifty Cavalry and Six Companys of the Viziers Sepoys exclusive of one Company of Sepoys from one of the Brigades

18 Previous to Hyder Beg's leaving the neighbourhood of Lucknow Colonel Harper Acquaints us that he had no better means of adjusting the payment of what was due from the Nabob Vizier for the Balance of the Kist of Bhadoon amounting to two Lacks and eight Thousand rupees than by accepting a Bill of Exchange and Shroff's Teeps for this sum payable in 15 Days

19 In like manner Colonel Harper observes that he had been obliged to accept three Assignments for Rupees 1 02 164 payable at the Expiration of two months and an half viz. respectable Annals this sum being the amount of the Servants salaries at Lucknow for part of the Fussullee year 1102 and the whole of 1103 ending on the 8th of last September

20 Rajoh Ticket Roy who is left in the management of the Finance had pledged himself to Colonel Harper for the Payment of the Regular Kists of the present Year We refer to the proceedings for a statement received from Colonel Harper of the Sums actually paid by the Vizier's Government in ready money Bills of Exchange and the Securities above recited during the Period of his holding the office of Agent for the Governor General at the Court of Lucknow

21 The arrears actually due to the Troops at Cawnpore and Futty Ghur amounting to about Ten Lacs of rupees and no funds appearing to be allotted for the payment of them except the Bills of Exchange above mentioned for two Lacs and eight Thousand Rupees payable in fifteen Days Lord Cornwallis thought it necessary to take notice of the Circumstance to Colonel Harper and that the order of the Court of Directors was very positive that the Payment of the Troops should precede demands of every other Kinds Colonel Harper was therefore desired to transmit to the Governor General as soon as possible a list of all the Issues he has made since the month of June that his Lordship might Judge whether it would

have been practicable to have prevented the great arrears now due to the Troops Lord Cornwallis at the same time expressed his disapproval of Colonel Harper's Interference to procure pay for Coips in the Service of the Vizier especially when so great a sum was due to those in the Service of the Company. The Governor General has also required Colonel Harper to transmit to him an exact state of all the money transactions and engagements of the Company with the Nobab Vizier since he took charge of his present station including in the Credit side the Drafts and Securities which he has lately received from Hyder Beg Cawn, and he has been further desired to specify the names of persons who receive Salaries from him or have obtained money by his Means by orders from this Government

22. Colonel Harper has promised to send down the Lists and statements required of him and to exert himself as much as possible to realize the Sums due to the Company for three months Kists on the 9th Instant. He acquainted the Governor General that the Troops at Cawnpore have been lately supplied with more than two Lacs of Rupees and he trusts that the arrears due to them will be very soon paid upto the end of November.

23 The Accountant at Lucnow has lately transmitted to the Presidency the Nobab Vizier's account Current for the Month of November 1786 By this his Excellency appeared to be indebted to the Hon'ble Company Oude Sicca Rupees 34,32,565-2-6 or Current Rupees, 38,10,147-5-2 Deduct Difference between the Accounts of the Presidency and those of the Lucnow station on 31st October 1783 as stated in the Quick Stock now preparing 75,846-4-5 Amount due from the Vizier by the accounts of the Presidency on 30th Novr. 1786 37,34,301-6-9

24 We must however observe that the Nabob Vizier has had Credit for Oude Sicca rupees 10,80,00 received in Persiram's Teep not realized when the last Letters were dispatched from Lucnow.

25 We have the honor to transmit to you a number in the Packet Copy of a Minute lately delivered at the Board by Mr. Macpherson on the subject of the 38 Paragraph of our address by the Swallow which mentions Lord Cornwallis's apprehension that it had been sometimes the Practice of the Board to interfere between the Nabob Vizier and his Private Creditors in a manner which in his Lordship's Opinion was highly inexpedient and improper and unwarranted by the nature of our connection with his Excellency Mr Macpherson has approved highly of the Proposition which his Lordship made to prevent future solicitations of the Nabob Vizier and his Ministers for the payment of private Debts but apprehending that his Lordship's Sentiments as expressed in his Minute might obtain a Construction unfavorable to the rule which Mr Macpherson constantly observed during the Period of his Administration he has entered into Explanations which we consider as deserving your attention and hope will receive it

26 Mr Macpherson concluded with a proposition that all British subjects having demands upon the Vizier by Bond or otherwise should be

called upon to state them by a particular day and that they shall afterwards be referred to your Honble. Court for your directions concerning their final adjustment suggesting at the same time the propriety of afterwards publishing to all Persons concerned the determination of Government on this occasion that no British subjects might after such a prohibition have the least pretence to solicit the Interference of Government in favor of their Claims upon their Transactions with the Vizier

27 We have the Honor to transmit to you a number in the Packet a Minute from the Governor General delivered in Consequence of that from Mr Macpherson His Lordship has expressed the Concern it would give him were any part of the Conduct of his Predecessor in Office affected by a Misconstruction of his Intention He therefore readily agreed that the Explanation which Mr Macpherson gives of the line he pursued in regard to the Claims of Individual on the Vizier should be stated to your Honble Court but as the Principles of which the Determination of Government was founded must soon be generally known Lord Cornwallis did not apprehend much Inconvenience from private solicitation and considered it as Improper to recommend the measure of calling for and stating a list of the private Debts of the Nabob Vizier to British subjects which might reasonably be construed into an implied Intention of giving Assistance to recover them and would directly contradict the Declaration he has just given on the proper line for the future Consideration of Government

28 Mr Macpherson's intention in proposing that the private claims of British subjects on the Nabob Vizier should be ascertained having been to relieve the Governor General in particular and the Company in future from any application on similar subjects he has declared that whatever appears best to the Govr General after the Circumstances which he has stated cannot but meet his wishes.

29 Having considered the application made to us by the Attornies of Mr James Fraser requesting that the sums which had been received into the Treasury at Lucnow on this account might be paid to them, and the remaining Debt as payment should be received from the Nabob and having before us the Secretary's report shewing what appeared on the records on the subject of this claim on the Nabob We have come to a Resolution that the Attornies of Mr Fraser be furnished with an order upon the Lucnow Treasury for the amount admitted as received on account of his Excellency's Debt in that Gentleman by the last account Current transmitted to the Presidency previous to the receipt of our Instructions of the 2d October last which prohibited the Accountant at Lucnow from receiving any Money except on Account of this Government the order so agreed to be passed on the Lucnow Treasury becoming payable of the first Assets realized by the Accountant and not wanted for the Pay of the Army in Reference to any Remittance from Lucnow whether to Surat Bombay or the Presidency The Accountant will give his Excellency Credit for the Balance of Mr Fraser's Bond as admitted to have been received at the Period before expressed and Mr Fraser's attornies have

been desired to revert to the Nabob Vizier for the Remainder of the Debt.

30. A Letter lately written by the Nabob Vizier to Colonel Harper mentioned that Mahomed Husseign who was once charged with several employments at the Presence had been discovered in improper Conduct and having been expelled from his Excellency's Country resided within the Dominions of the Marratas, since which time it was understood he had gone to Benares and intended to repair to Calcutta. We have not deemed ourselves at Liberty to Comply with the whole of the Vizier's request, which desired that Man's expulsion from the Company's Territories but we have forbidden the Resident at Benares and the Several Chiefs and Collectors etc., from shewing him any Countenance or having any Communication with him and we have directed them not to afford him any other Protection than a man taking refuge in the Company's Territories is of course and of necessity to receive

31. Letters having been received from the Nabob Muzaffer Jung and his family respecting generally the situation of Feroockabad and the Conduct of the Resident, Mr Willes who brought them to Calcutta was furnished with a Copy of them and took this occasion to address the Board on the unhappy Situation of that Country We think it proper to transmit a Copy of his Letter a number in this Dispatch together with a Copy of the Resolutions we have passed on it These Resolutions the Committee will observe are as they profess merely for temporary Effect and to relieve Feroockabad for the present from those Distresses which the Imbecility and worthlessness of the Nabob have brought upon it. We shall take into our Particular Consideration the General Question concerning Feroockabad upon the arrival of Hyder Beg Cawn and with the orders of the Company before us dated the 12th April 1786 determine what will be most adviseable to be done in respect to that Country and the Company's future care in the management of it

32 In our proceedings of the 11th Inst. which will be transmitted to you with our next Dispatch the Committee will find two Letters addressed by the Resident at Benares on the 25th and 26th of last month to the Board at large and to the Governor General separately conveying the Residents reports and those of the Rajah to him of the Conduct of Cashmeree Mull

33. In Consequence of these Complaints and the Rajah's wishes the Governor General empowered the Resident to abolish the office of Treasurer held by Cashmeree Mull an appointment not known to be authorized by Government and instructed him to have the public Revenue paid according to former Custom into the Rajah's Cutcherry under the Guards and Checks that have been usual in that office or that will be effectual for its security

34 The Governor General was advised by Mr Grant that some alienations of Land had been admitted in the Zemindarry of Benares which were imputed to the Accounts of the Treasurer and materially

stang's settlement
 affected the Revenue of Government secured by Mr Hastings's settlement
 As the alienation of Lands in perpetuity in the Zemindarry of Benares
 without the authority of Government was not only repugnant to the
 Rights of the Company but injurious to the Public Revenue We directed
 that all the Lands in the Zemindarry which had been so alienated and
 alienated with or without the Rajah's sanction since Mr Hastings's adjust-
 ment in the Year 1784 should be resumed and the amount thereof applied
 to the Liquidation of the old Balance of rupees 3 14 55 propose any better
 Zemindarry to the Company unless Mr Grant should
 mode for the adjustment of this Account

35 We have authorized the Resident at Benares to invest the
 Rajah with the usual Khelast on Account of the completion of his
 Payments for the Fuzsullee year 1193

36 The Rajah having represented to Mr Grant that the sum of
 about Twenty Thousand rupees was due by Lalla Cash Gauzeepore and
 Balance of the Treasury on account of the receipts from Grant's arrival on
 that the Cash which had been collected since Mr Cash paid into the
 Account of the Balance for the Year 1192 Fuzsullee in his Accounts
 keeping of the said Lalla and that he had not entered itum to call upon
 we directed the Resident in regard to the first Old Second subject of
 Cashmeree Mull to discharge it and in respect to the him
 Representation to require the necessary satisfaction from

Honor to be

We have the Sirs

Honble humble Servants

Your most faithfuls/J Macpherson/

(Signed) Cornwallis Stuart

J Stehles/

Fort William

22nd Decr 1786

[Per William Pitt]

NOTES

NOTES

LETTERS FROM COURT

No 2—29 January 1782.

1. **Sir Edward Hughes K. B.** (p. 3)—Edward Hughes (1720-94) ; Naval C-in-C. in the East Indies during 1773-77 and again during 1778-83, destroyed Haidar Ali's fleet at Mangalore in 1780, helped in the capture of Negapatam in 1781 and Trincomali in January next year; during 1782-83 engaged five times with the French fleet under Suffrein.

2. **Hillsborough** (p. 3)—(1718-93), Secretary of State for the Colonies from 1768 to 1772 and Secretary of State for the Northern Department from 1779 to 1782

No 3—1 February 1782.

1. **Sir Richard Bickerton** (p. 4)—(1727-92); took part in the action against the French off Cuddalore.

No 4—30 April 1782.

1. **Marquis of Rockingham** (p. 6) — (1730-82); Prime Minister of England from 1765 to 1766 and again from March to July, 1782.

2. **Lord Camden** (p. 6)—Charles Pratt Camden (1714-94); President of the Privy Council during 1782-83 and again from 1784 till his death, opposed Fox's East India Bill

3. **Earl of Shelburne** (p. 6)—William Petty, First Marquis of Lansdowne (1737-1805), appointed Secretary of State for Home in 1782, became Prime Minister on the fall of the Rockingham Ministry, retired in 1783

4. **Charles James Fox** (p. 6) — (1749-1806), took prominent part in the impeachment proceedings against Clive and Warren Hastings, introduced into the Parliament in November 1783 his two Bills, prepared with Burke's aid, for the better Government of India, of which one was rejected by the House of Lords and the other made no progress

5. **Lord Keppel** (p. 6)—Viscount Augustus Keppel (1725-86), appointed First Lord of Admiralty in the Rockingham Ministry.

No 21—14 March 1784.

1. **extraordinary demand . Madajee Sindia** (p. 82)—This related to the arrears of tribute owed by the British to Emperor Shah Alam. The Emperor had demanded the tribute in a *shuqqa* addressed to the

Governor General which also bore a note from Mahadji Sindia It was handed over to Major Browne on 2 April 1785 *Browne Correspondence* pp 244-49

2 Lieutenant Anderson (p 82)—James Anderson (1757-1833) younger brother of David Anderson appointed Warren Hastings's Aid de-Camp in November 1781 and later posted as Assistant to his brother David Anderson, Resident at the court of Mahadji Sindia On 3 November 1783 he took over the temporary charge of the office of Resident to which he was finally promoted on his brother's retirement James resigned this post on 20 December 1786 *Poona Residency Correspondence* vol I pp vii-ix, Charles Ross *Correspondence of Charles First Marquess Cornwallis* vol II p 224 n

3 late Act of Parliament (p 82)—Pitt's India Act of 1784 clause XXXIV of which restricted the powers of the Governor General in Council in regard to the commencing of hostilities or entering into a defensive or offensive alliance with any native ruler which might involve the Company in fresh wars Clause XXXV of this Act imposed similar restrictions on the Governments of Madras and Bombay Danby Pickering (ed) *The Statutes At Large* vol XXXIV pp 502-03

No 22—21 July 1786

1 spirit of Intemperance M Dangereux (p 83)—Interpretation of the 13th article of the treaty gave rise to numerous conflicts between the French and the English According to M. Dangereux French Commandant at Chandernagore the French commerce was liable to a levy of duty of 2½% on both imports and exports but the English insistence on 4% duty on trade by individuals after the dissolution of the French East India Company was untenable *Foreign Proceedings* 8 August 1783 vol 3 pp 53-54 S P Sen *The French in India* p 452

2 M de Vergennes (p 84)—Comte de Vergennes Foreign Minister of Emperor Louis XVI of France Dispute over the interpretation of article 13 of the treaty gave rise to some French nationals refusing to comply with the usual modes of procedure within the British territory Vergennes took notice of the case For details see pp 88-90 *ante*

No 23—21 July 1786

1 The decisive Measures (p 91)—These were the instructions issued by the Fort William Council to the Government of Fort St George to collect the Revenues of the Carnatic should the Nabob fail in his engagements and to collect the Revenues of Tanjore should the Raja hesitate to pay his just proportion to the Public Service or to comply the arrangements ordered by the Company *Secret Consultation*, 14 January 1785 no 18

2. "Should Timur Shah Abdally march into Hindostan (p. 94)—News about Timur Shah's intended invasion of Hindustan was first conveyed to John Macpherson by James Anderson who in December 1785 wrote to him that "Humayun Shah the son of Timur Shah ... crossed the Attock near Hasan Abdal on the 13th of this month with about 20,000 men" and would halt there till joined by Timur Shah who intended "to march from Peshawar towards Hasan Abdal on the 16th of this month" *Poona Residency Correspondence*, vol. I, p. 38.

No. 24—21 July 1786

1 **Island of Diego Garcia** (p. 97)—Situated $7^{\circ}.16'S$ and $71^{\circ}E$ to the north-east of Madagascar and south-west of Ceylon in the Indian Ocean. On 4 May 1786 Messrs Richard Thomas Benjamin Price and John Richmond Smyth of the Bombay Presidency had formally occupied the island on behalf of the East India Company. R. H. Phillimore, *Historical Records of the Survey of India*, vol. I, p. 123.

2. **king of Cherrika** (p. 97)—The Raja of Chirakkal in North Malabar belonged to the Kollatiri family. He was killed in a skirmish with Tipu Sultan's forces in 1788. His brother, the new Raja, joined hands with the other chiefs of Malabar against Tipu in 1790.

3. **Armies of the Peshwa ..near Aedgheer** (p. 100)—After the Treaty of Mangalore it was evident that the war between Tipu and the Marathas was a matter of time. The Nizam and Nana were in negotiation, and by May 1786 an alliance was concluded and the Marathas were ready to move.

4 **Bibi of Cannanore** (p. 101)—Widow of Muhammad Ali Raja, the Moplah chief of Cannanore. She was "old and ugly, very sharp in all matters of business, and ever on the watch to find an opportunity for urging forward her own interests" H. Bevan, *Thirty Years in India*, vol. II, p. 143.

5. **Rhandesserrat** (p. 101)—Randattara in North Malabar. The English factory at Tellicherry with its outworks on Darmadam Island secured to the Company the lion's share of the pepper produced in the territories of the Randattara Achanmar. Randattara was mortgaged to the English factors in 1741 and save for a few months in 1788-89 they never lost their hold on it.

6 **Achamars Debt** (p. 101)—The debt arose on account of the war expenses which the English factors of Tellicherry had incurred for the protection of Randattara against the Kanarese. In 1737, the loan amounted to 1,00,000 *fanams*, out of which 70,130 *fanams* 4 *vis* were paid. On 29 December 1740 another part payment of 1,029 *fanams* was made, but on 3 January 1741 the Achanmars raised an additional loan of 18,741 *fanams* 11 *vis* so as to make a total of 60,000 *fanams* against which Randattara was mortgaged to the British. As no serious attempt was

made to pay off the debt it increased to 65 000 *fanams* by 1749 William Logan *Malabar* vol I pp 378-80

7 two Kings of Nelleseram (p 101)—The Nileswaram Rajas belonged to a branch of the Kolatturi family and were intimately connected with the Zamorin's family

8 Insurrection of the Koorga Nairs (p 104)—In 1780 Linga Raja of Coorg died leaving behind two sons As both were minor, Haidar Ali became their guardian and entrusted the government of Coorg to a brahmin named Suhbarasaya Enraged at this the Coorgs raised a banner of revolt in June 1782 Haidar at the time being engaged in war with the English could not do anything except to remove the princes so that the rebels might be deprived of a rallying point After Haidar's death Tipu failed in his first expedition against the rebels, but in 1785 he led another in which he defeated them Mohibbul Hasan Khan *History of Tipu Sultan* pp 85-87 130

9 Debts (p 107)—The Carnatic debts had been a thorn in the side of both the Company and the Home Government for many years The question of assignment of the revenues had led to serious differences between Warren Hastings and Lord Macartney Ultimately by the order of the Board of Control dated 9 December 1784 administration of the revenues was restored to the Nawab and a sinking fund for the liquidation of the debts out of the Nawab's revenues was established It is estimated that between 1784 and 1804 £ 50 00 000 were paid to claimants against the Nawab and when the debts were finally liquidated in 1805-14 claims to the tune of £1 90 00 000 out of £3 00 00 000 were rejected as fraudulent Holden Furber *Henry Dundas* pp 48-52

No 25—22 September 1786

1 Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart's deputation to Mauritius (p 111)—The Governor General in Council sent Lt Col Cathcart to the Isle of France to negotiate a commercial convention with M de Souillac, the French Governor General After a prolonged discussion of all the disputed points a convention was agreed upon and signed The English Government however disapproved of the convention on the ground that the Fort William authorities had no right to conclude a convention with a foreign power It was in 1787 that the negotiations were resumed in Europe and a convention signed at Versailles with a view to removing all disputes in the execution of the provisions of the treaty of 1783 relating to the French commercial rights and privileges S P Sen *op cit* pp 410-20

LETTERS TO COURT

No. 1—11 February 1782.

1. **Agreement formerly executed** (p 118)—A *gaulnama* was signed, on 15 October 1775, between Nawab Asafud-Daulah and his mother Amatuz-Zahra *alias* Bahu Begam, according to which she agreed to pay Rs 56,00,000 to the former for liquidating the late Nawab's arrears due to the East India Company, on the condition that no further claims on her would be made. Mr Bristow, the British Resident at the Nawab's Court, stood guarantee on behalf of the Company. C. U. Aitchison, *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, vol I (1909 ed), pp. 100-02.

2. **new Treaty** (p 118)—It was signed between Warren Hastings and Nawab Asafud-Daulah on 19 September 1781 at Chunar. Its two main stipulations were (i) that all English troops, excepting one brigade and one extra regiment, were to be withdrawn from the Nawab's territories, and (ii) that the Nawab was to be permitted to resume such *jagirs* as he might find necessary. The treaty eventually paved the way for the confiscation of the *jagirs* of Bahu Begam. *Ibid.*, pp 102-04

3. **Dewargur Pandit** (p 120)—Devajipant Chorghode *alias* Diwakar Pandit, the wily minister of Janoji Bhonsle and his successor Mudhoji. During 1772-81 he was in secret alliance with Warren Hastings and helped the British not only by preventing Chimnaji from attacking Orissa and Bengal as designed by Nana Phadnavis but also in procuring his master's permission for the passage of Col Goddard's army through Berar. At the time of the British reverses in the Konkan in 1781 and the failure of Mudhoji to mediate and conclude a peace with Poona, Warren Hastings needed his help badly but the Pandit had died a little earlier. G S Sardesai, *New History of the Marathas*, vol III, pp. 98 ff.

No. 2—8 April 1782.

1. **Treaty of 1773** (p 123)—Signed between Shujaud-Daulah and Warren Hastings at Benares on 7 September 1773, by which (i) Kora, Kara and Allahabad were ceded by the Company to the Nawab of Oudh in consideration of Rs 50,00,000 to be paid in three instalments—one instalment of Rs 20,00,000 in ready money and two subsequent instalments of Rs 15,00,000 each, and (ii) the Nawab agreed to pay to the Company at the rate of Rs 2,10,000 a month for a brigade comprising 2 battalions of Europeans, 6 battalions of sepoy and 1 company of artillery. By a secret understanding the British also agreed to furnish a brigade to the Nawab for operations against the Rohillas in consideration of Rs 40,00,000 plus the expenses of the campaign.

2. **Pollams** (p. 124)—A tract of country to the north-west of the road leading from Madras to Arcot and subject to the petty chiefs called Polhgars.

3 General Treaty (p 125)—Reference here is to the Treaty of Salbar which was signed on 17 May 1782 by Mahadji Sindia on the part of the Peshwa and Mr Anderson on behalf of the East India Company. It was ratified by the Governor General and Council on 6 June 1782 and by the Peshwa on 20 December 1782.

4 Mr Hollond (p 126)—John Hollond a Madras civilian appointed Resident at Hyderabad by the Madras Government in April 1779 to settle the dispute regarding the Guntur *sarkar* later on acted as Governor General's Agent with the Nizam became a member of the Fort St George Council in 1787 and acted as Governor from 7 February 1789 to 13 February 1790.

No 3—10 April 1782

1 Captain Thomas Forrest (p 130)—Joined the English East India Company's service after 1748 formed a settlement at Balambangan. In 1770 explored in New Guinea the Sulu Archipelago the Moluccas etc. in 1774-76. He made a voyage from Bengal to Keda in 1783 and from Calcutta to the Mergui Archipelago in 1790 discovering the Forrest Strait.

No 4—9 May 1782

1 Fatty Singh (p 134)—Fateh Singh son of Damaji Gaikwar. The quarrel between the two Gaikwar brothers Govind Rao and Fateh Singh threw the latter into the arms of the English. He signed a treaty on 26 January 1780 agreeing to assist General Goddard with a force of 3 000 horse and to cede the revenues of certain districts as soon as he was put in possession of Ahmadabad and the Peshwa's territories north of the river Mahi.

No 5—26 May 1782

1 Muchdem Sahib (p 136)—Makhdum Ali brother in law and trusted commander of Haider Ali. He was deputed to Pondicherry in 1760 to conclude an alliance with the French and on his return was appointed *Qiladar* of Seringapatam. He was killed on 7 April 1782 in an action against Colonel Humberston.

No 6—15 July 1782

1 several Districts (p 140)—These included Bassain Ahmadabad Dahhol Peshwa's district near Surat Anklesvar Hansot Dehjbarn, Amod and Arnala.

2 plan of Co operation with the Presidency of Fort St George (p 141)—According to this plan the Bombay Government was required to stop hostilities with the Marathas and to attack Haider Ali from the side of Malabar Coast in collaboration with Major General Medows. *Secret Consultation* 2 January 1782 no 3.

NOTES

3 the Nabob's situation (p 147)—The Nawab, whose sovereignty over the Carnatic was recognised under article 11 of the Treaty of Paris (1763) and from whom the English Company itself held the lands around Madras under "a jaghire tenure", was by degrees reduced to absolute dependence upon the Company. With Lord Macartney as the Governor of Fort St George, his situation became still worse so that in February 1783 he complained to the Governor General, "I still continue to suffer the same indignities, and my affairs the same prejudice, from Lord Macartney's disgraceful conduct...." *Secret Proceedings*, 15 March 1783, vol. 55, pp 1049-60

No 7—10 November 1782

1 Narroo Sheo Deo (p 149)—Naro Shivdeo, Poona Durbar's agent with Mahadji Sindia. On 30 April 1782 he was sent by Mahadji Sindia to Poona on a confidential mission. He returned with certain proposals against Haider Ali which the Poona Durbar wanted the British to accept before they would ratify the Treaty of Salbai. *Secret Consultations*, 11 November 1782, nos 6-7

2 Relief of Vellore (p. 154)—The fort of Vellore had been besieged by Haider Ali for upward of 15 months during which period Colonel Lang and his garrison kept up its defence even at the point of starvation. The fort was ultimately relieved by Sir Eyre Coote on 3 November 1781.

3. King of Achcen (p 158)—Achun (in Sumatra). On the death of Alaud-Din Muhammad Shah in June 1781, his eldest son, aged about 18 years, succeeded him. In 1781 Philip Braham, Chief of Fort Marlbro', met the new king and found him favourably disposed towards the British. The King was also visited by Kenneth Mackenzie in 1782 and Captain Forrest in 1784.

4 Mirza Shuffee Cawn (p. 159)—Mirza Muhammad Shafi Khan was the son-in-law of Mirza Najaf Khan. During the Sikh campaigns of 1780-81 he was the commander of the Mughal forces at Panipat. He became *Mir Bakhs* on 15 September 1782 but had to flee from the capital within a month. He regained his position on 17 November but was murdered near Dig on 23 September 1783 by Ismail Beg, nephew of Muhammad Beg Hamdani.

5 Letafat Ally Cawn (p 159)—Latafat Ali Khan was sent to Delhi in 1776 by Nawab Asafud-Daulah as his agent at Delhi Court. He soon plunged himself into the intrigues of the court, first siding with Abdul Ahad Khan and later joining Mirza Najaf Khan in 1779 over whom he got so much ascendancy that he "practically ruled the State". After the death of Najaf Khan, Latafat Ali Khan joined Afiasiab Khan but was imprisoned on 18 November 1782 by Muhammad Beg Hamdani who got him blinded. *Browne Correspondence*, pp 15-18

6 Paull (p 159)—Monsieur Pauly was the commander of Begam Samru's forces. On Najaf Khan's death Pauly at first enlisted under Mirza Shafi's flag, but shortly after the latter had obtained the supreme power he joined the court party and was treacherously assassinated by Shafi's men.

7 Mahomed Beg Amdany (p 159)—Muhammad Beg Khan Hamdani was one of the leaders at the Delhi Court. He effected a combination with Mirza Shafi Khan but soon fell out and had him murdered on 23 September 1783. He later joined the rebellious Rajas of Macheri and Bharatpur but had to surrender to Mahadji Sindia in November 1784. He joined the Raja of Jaipur and died fighting against the Imperial forces in July 1787.

No 8—4 December 1782

1 Nahah Walla Jah complaints (p 162)—The Nawab's complaints were contained in two letters dated 1 July and 25 November 1782 written by Muhammad Asim Khan his representative at Fort William. In the first he complained against the mismanagement of the Tanjore revenues and in the second that all the sums paid by the Nawab into the Company's treasury at Madras were not properly accounted for. *Secret Proceedings* 4 December 1782 vol 53 A pp 3560-3643

No 9—30 January 1783

1 special authority (p 165)—This was vested in the Supreme Government *vide* para 3 of Court of Directors' letter dated 11 April 1781 addressed to Fort St George which reads: 'You will observe by the General tendency of our Instructions to Bengal that our Grand Object is Peace and as our Governor General and Council must of course take the lead if Negotiation be necessary so must they also direct the plan of joint operation for all our Presidencies. If war shall be unavoidable and it is our order that all their requisitions be to the utmost of your ability implicitly obeyed.' *Secret Proceedings* 6 January 1783 vol 54 p 82

2 The Treaty of Agreement of 2d April 1781 (p 166)—It was finalized between the Fort William Council and Salyid Muhammad Asim Khan and Richard Joseph Sullivan the Nawab's representatives on 29 March 1781 and ratified on 2 April 1781. According to this (i) the hereditary rights of the Nawab over the Carnatic and also his right to nominate his successor were recognised (ii) he was exempted from paying anything to the English beyond the expenses of the ten battalions of troops employed for his service and (iii) in return the Nawab agreed to surrender the revenues of the Carnatic to the Company for the duration of the war out of which the latter had to pay off his European creditors. *Secret Proceedings* 29 March 1781 vol 46 pp 862-98. 2 April 1781, vol 46 A, pp 920-29

3. **Soucar Security** (p. 168)—According to the agreement signed on 13 January 1783 at Calcutta, Saiyid Muhammad Asim Khan agreed to furnish, on behalf of the Nawab, the banker's security for the supply of provisions and bullocks for the war against Tipu Sultan. See also note 4, *Letter to Court*, 20 October 1783.

No 10—10 March 1783.

1. **Fyzula Caun** (p. 173)—Faizullah Khan, founder of the state of Rampur, was the son of Nawab Ali Muhammad Khan. By the Treaty of Laldhang signed in 1774, Nawab Shujaud-Daulah recognised him as the ruler of Rampur, while in 1783 Nawab Asafud Daulah exempted him from rendering military service on payment of a sum of Rs. 15,00,000. Faizullah Khan died on 24 July 1794.

No. 11—5 April 1783.

1 **Moujeb Saubek Dustoor** (p. 174)—*Mujib i-Sabiq Dastur*. This refers to the maritime concessions granted by the Peshwa to the British by the treaty of 1739 signed between Baji Rao and Stephen Law, Governor of Bombay Aitchison, *op. cit.*, vol. VI, pt I (1892 ed.).

2 **Engagment which...** Nabob Walla Jah (p 181)—It refers to the agreement between the Fort William Council and the Nawab of Carnatic entered into on 2 April 1781.

3. **complaints, against the Conduct of Lord Macartney** (p. 182)—These are contained in the letter dated 23 February 1783, addressed to the Governor General by the Nawab who observed, "I still continue to suffer the same indignities, and my affairs the same prejudice, from Lord Macartney's disgraceful conduct. . ." *Secret Proceedings*, 15 March 1783, vol. 55, pp 1049-60.

4. **Mr. Richard Joseph Sullivan** (p 185)—Acting Secretary, Military Department, Madras, 1775, represented the Nawab of Arcot at Calcutta in finalizing the agreement of 2 April 1781; subsequently appointed British Resident at the Nawab's Durbar

5 **Jagheers** (p 187)—As a reward for the services rendered to the Company against Raja Chait Singh of Benares, Beniram Pandit was awarded 27,300 *bighas* of agricultural land and 24,600 *bighas* of populated area and jungles in *sarkar* Ghazipur, yielding Rs 25,000 *Sanads* for the *jagirs* of Beniram and others were issued on 6 March 1783 *Secret Proceedings*, 6 March 1783, vol 55, p 864, *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol VI, pp 100-01, 192

No 12—20 October 1783.

1 **printed Copies of his Majesty's proclamation of peace.** Versailles on the 20th of January (p 188)—For a copy of the proclamation please see *Secret Proceedings*, 14 November 1783, vol 62, pp 6118-22 Reference to the cessation of hostilities was contained in the King's speech

6 Paull (p 159)—Monsieur Pauly was the commander of Begam Samru's forces. On Najaf Khan's death Pauly at first enlisted under Mirza Shafi's flag but shortly after the latter had obtained the supreme power he joined the court party and was treacherously assassinated by Shafi's men.

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delivered in the Parliament on 5 December 1782 a copy of which along with copies of the Preliminary Articles of Peace were sent to India on 8 February 1783 *Secret Letters from Court*, 1778-88 vol. 1, pp 541 44, 553-88

2 a letter (p 189)—Sir Eyre Coote was informed that as the whole Executive power Civil & Military is lodged in the Governor & Council or Select Committee thereof of which when here you are a member and not in any Individual thereof and cannot be transferred other wise than by an Express act of Parliament or by an Express Order of the Company—Neither of which has ordered such a transfer and that in pursuance of the Regulations of the 1774—We hold you Amenable to our Orders, in like manner as you are amenable to the Presidency of Bengal when there *Secret Proceedings* 7 May 1783 vol 50 pp 1764 65

3 Mr R J Sullivan (p 104)—Richard Joseph Sullivan He was appointed Resident at Hyderabad in 1783 in place of John Hollond in view of his special knowledge but just then orders arrived for his dismissal because of his accepting a deputation from the Nawab of Carnatic to Bengal See also note 4 *Letter to Court* 5 April 1783

4. Subsequent Agreement (p 195)—This engagement was executed at Calcutta by Saiyid Muhammad Asim Khan on behalf of the Nawab of Carnatic on 13 January 1783 by which the Nawab was released from the obligations laid down in the 8th article of the agreement of 2 April 1781 and in lieu thereof it was agreed that (i) the Nawab would advance 5/8 of the revenues of Carnatic to the Company for the expenses of the war while the supplies of ready money grain and cattle would be increased by 1/3 over and above the quantity already supplied by him (ii) from the day the enemy should evacuate the Carnatic the Nawab would pay to the Company by regular *qists* twelve lakhs of *pagodas* per annum of which seven lakhs were to be adjusted towards the debt of the Company and five lakhs for payment to his creditors and (iii) in the event of his failure to fulfil the above stipulations he would abide by the orders of the Court of Directors or the Governor General and Council of Bengal in respect of the revenues *Secret Consultation* 13 January 1783 no 6

5 Minute of Mr Dent (p 196)—In his minute of 21 September 1783 Mr Dent gave the following reasons for non implementation of the orders of the Fort William Council on the restoration of the Carnatic revenues to the Nawab (i) that under the Act of Parliament Fort William had no power to interfere in the Internal Government or Revenue Business of the other Presidencies (ii) that the new agreement between the Governor General and Council and the Nawab was not valid as it was based on the treaty of 2 April 1781 already annulled by the Court of Directors and (iii) that the treaty of 2 December 1781 between the Fort St. George Government and the Nawab had already been made

effectual by the Court's order dated 5 September 1782. *Secret Consultation*, 13 October 1783, no 1.

6 **The Seige of Mangalore** (p. 198)—Tipu not being a party to the Versailles compact, the war in Malabar continued. He, with the help of the French, besieged Mangalore fort, defended by Lt.-Col. Campbell, in April 1783. The siege was lifted on 2 August 1783 as a result of the signing of a convention between Tipu and Campbell for the cessation of hostilities. *Secret Proceedings*, 14 November 1783, vol 62, pp 6061-92

7 **Treaty Concluded between the Vizier and that Chief** (p 200)—It was finalized through Major William Palmer on 17 February 1783, the Nawab Vazir agreeing to disengage Nawab Faizullah Khan from the obligation of supplying a force on the latter's undertaking to pay him Rs 15,00,000. Aitchison, *op cit*, vol. I (1909 ed), pp 8-9.

8 **Marratta Treaty respecting Futty Sing Guickwar** (p 201)—The reference is to the treaty signed on 26 January 1780 between General Goddard and Fateh Singh. For details, see note 1, *Letter to Court*, 9 May 1782

9. **Hurry Punt Furkia** (p. 201)—Hari Pant Phadke was a member of the ministerial party at Poona and an army commander. He led the Maratha forces against Haidar Ali in 1777 and against General Goddard in 1780. He pursued Raghunath Rao who finally surrendered to him at Dhodap in July 1783.

10 **Omrut Row** (p 202)—Amrit Rao, Raghunath Rao's adopted son, was promised the office of the Peshwa's *Diwan* after the arrest of Nana Phadnavis but was defeated by Daulat Rao at Kirkee on 25 June 1798. He became Peshwa in November 1802 but was ousted from the office the same year on the return of Bajirao.

11 **Instructions. . Major James Browne** (p 202)—These instructions are contained in the letter dated 20 August 1782 written by Warren Hastings to James Browne. See *Browne Correspondence*, pp. 1-5

No. 14—25 November 1783.

1. **Begums at Fayzabad** (p 206)—Sadrun-Nisa Begam and Bahu Begam, grandmother and mother respectively of Nawab Asafud-Daulah

No. 15—30 November 1783

1. **Calamity of a Scarcity of Grain** (p 207)—The scarcity was the result of the failure of winter crops in many parts of Northern India. The famine being more severe around the Punjab, there was a large scale exodus of population from Lahore towards Lucknow. *Public Letter to Court*, 23 October 1783, paras 193-97

No 17—15 January 1784

1 Purseram Bow (p 218)—Parashuram Bhau Patwardhan the famous Maratha general defeated the English forces under General Goddard in the Konkan in 1781 captured Dharwar from Tipu Sultan in 1791 imprisoned by Nana Phadnavis in October 1796 but was released by Peshwa Baji Rao in June 1798 and sent to Satara against Shivaji II died at Pattankudi near Nipani on 16 September 1799 in a skirmish with the forces of the Chhatrapati Sardesai *op cit* vol III pp 108 ff

No 18—7 February 1784

1 Hostilities against the Rannee of Cannanore (p 221)—In December 1783 Brigadier General Macleod captured Cannanore and forced the Rani to sign a treaty which was later disowned by the Bombay Government. She sought British protection in 1788 but failing to get any response tried to strengthen her position by marrying her daughter to Tipu Sultan's son, Abdul Khaliq. The British captured Cannanore again on 8 August 1790 but it was not restored to the Rani till 1793

2 Solemn Promise (p 223)—In his letter dated 14 November 1783 the Governor General wrote to Nizam Ali Khan. I do most solemnly assure your Highness in my own name and that of the Company that the Amount [of *peshkash*] shall be adjusted as soon as we are able to pay what is due from us. Consider not this as an Evasion. It is indeed the Language of truth. *Secret Proceedings* 14 November 1783 vol. 62 p 6272

3. Copy of our Instructions to Mr Johnson (p 224)—These were issued on 3 February 1784. Among other things Mr Johnson was asked to impress upon the Nizam that the English were keen to pay the arrears of *peshkash* but later at an appropriate time he was to sound him about the Company's claims upon the Guntur *sarkar* and the large sums of money he owed them on that account. *Secret Proceedings* 3 February 1784 vol 63 pp 291 300

No. 19—16 February 1784

1 evil Intention Ameer ul Omrah (p 228)—Amirul Umara Muhammad Munavvar Khan, the second son of Nawab Walajah. In 1775 the Fort St George Council suspected him of endeavouring to get a grant of the Tanjore Fort and Country of connections with the Dutch and other European Nations to the Southward. His intention is to throw off [f] all dependence on the English. Allegations made by Lord Macartney against him were characterised by the Nawab of Arcot as mischievous and baseless. H. D. Lovo *Vestiges of Old Madras* vol III p 66 *Calendar of Persian Correspondence* vol VI p 201

No. 20—28 February 1784.

1. **Our Instructions to Fort St George** (p 230)—These were issued on 14 November 1783. Important among them were : (i) If Tipu Sultan refused to comply with article 9 of the Treaty of Salbai, the offensive agreement between the English and Mahadjī Sindia would become operative, and (ii) the Nawab of Carnatic should be made a party in the negotiations with Mysore. For full details, see *Secret Proceedings*, 14 November 1783, vol 62, pp 6202-04, 6215-26.

No. 21—15 March 1784.

1 **Mangalore ..Tippoo Saheb** (p 235)—Mangalore was surrendered by Colonel Campbell in accordance with the terms of capitulation finalized with Tipu Sultan on 30 January 1784. Important among these were (i) that it should be treated as a transfer in exchange for some other fort in the Carnatic as may be finally decided with the Commissioners of Peace, and (ii) that the entire garrison, along with its baggage, shall be allowed to embark on the boats to be provided by Tipu Sultan with four days provisions. *Secret Proceedings*, 18 March 1784, vol. 63, pp 762-69, see also note 6, *Letter to Court*, 20 October 1783.

2 **Agreement with the Rannee** (p 237)—It was signed on 21 December 1783 at Cannanore between General Macleod and the Rani of Cannanore. Principal among the 8 articles of the agreement were (i) that the Rani would be restored to her palace and her territory but her forts and cannon would remain at the disposal of the English, (ii) that she would pay an annual tribute to the Company to be decided by the Bombay Government, and (iii) that the territories of the Raja of Chirrakal occupied by her since January 1783 would be given up to the British. The above treaty was, however, annulled by the Government of Bombay. *Secret Proceedings*, 9 March 1784, vol 63, pp 637, 641-42.

3 **Rana of Gohud** (p 238)—Rana Chhatar Singh of Gohad. He tried for a British alliance against the Marathas in 1774, submitted to Mahadjī Sindia by the treaty of 26 July 1781, again sought British intercession to solve his differences with Sindia in 1783, escaped across the Chambal in 1784 but was captured by Mahadjī Sindia and imprisoned in the Gwahor fort.

No. 23—16 March 1784.

1 **Captain Roche** (p 240)—Monsieur Le Chevalier de Roche, commander of the French corvette *La Juliette*. His demand for the restitution of French seamen deserters who were on board the private English ships in the river was acceded to, but later he asked for permission to export 8,000 bags of rice in contravention of the explicit embargo on exportation of all kinds of grain from the country. The Board took exception to the tone of his letters and this was conveyed to Marquis de Bussy in a

letter dated 3 December 1783 *Foreign Consultations* 10 December 1783, nos. 1 20

2 Mr Ble. (p 242)—Mr O Bie Chief of Serampore Danish factory A Danish sloop was detained for not producing vouchers at the Calcutta custom house of having paid duties at Hooghly Bie in a letter dated 4 January 1784 protested to Warren Hastings I likewise took notice of the offered Insult to the Danish Flag, and the unconstitutional Proceedings of sending a Guard of armed English sepoy on Board a vessel under Danish colours with royal Danish Passport *'Foreign Consultation*, 20 January 1784 no 11

No 24—5 July 1784

1 13th Article of the Treaty (p 244)—It reads as follows The King of Great Britain shall restore to His Most Christian Majesty all the Establishments which belonged to Him at the Commencement of the present war on the Coast of Orissa, and in Bengal securing to the subjects of France in that part of India as also on the coast of Orissa Coromandel, and Malabar a safe, free and independent Trade such as was carried on by the late French East India Company whether it be carried on by them as individuals or as a Company *Secret Letter from Court* 0 March 1783, vol I, pt I p 500

2 14th Article (p 248)—It reads Pondicherry as well as Karical shall likewise be restored and guaranteed to France and His Britannick Majesty shall procure to serve as a Dependency round Pondicherry the two districts of Valanour and Bahour and as a Dependency round Karical, the Four Contiguous Magous *Ibid* p 501

3 Embassy to Thibet (p 250)—Samuel Turner was appointed in January 1783 to proceed to the Court of Teshu Lama He returned to India in March 1784 and reported to Warren Hastings at Patna. *Public Letter to Court* 3 February 1783 para 24 See also Samuel Turner, *Account of an Embassy to the Court of the Teshoo Lama*

4 Alliance with His Majesty Shaw Allum (p 252)—According to Major Brown both Shah Alam and Afrasiab Khan were eager for an alliance with the British *Browns Correspondence* pp 124-20 157 61

5 Flight of Mirza Jewan Bukht (p 256)—Mirza Jawan Bakht fled from the palace at about 2 a.m. on 14 April 1784 accompanied by his maternal uncle Akbar Ali Khan *Ibid* p 150

6 Mr Stables (p 257)—John Stables was a member of the Fort William Council from November 1782 to January 1787 Warren Hastings favoured Brown's proposal for a military alliance with Shah Alam as that would not only bring peace to Delhi but secure the Company a decisive voice in the King's affairs. Only the opposition of Stables and Macpherson led him to abandon the idea

7. **Carnatic Payen Ghaut** (p. 260)—The Carnatic Hyderabad Payan-ghat was composed of the whole country extending from Guntur to the Coleroon along the sea-coast of Coromandel, afterwards better known as Arcot

8. **Plan of Reform ... Zemindarry of Benares** (p. 267)—Warren Hastings in his letter dated 13 June 1784 suggested (i) that the Raja should not interfere in the administration, (ii) that Babu Ajaib Singh, brother of Rani Gulab Kaur, the widow of Raja Balwant Singh, should be appointed as his *Nairb* or deputy with the real power to control the administration, (iii) that Ali Ibrahim Khan was to assist the *Nairb* as his *Amin* in charge of revenue matters, (iv) that the Company's share of the revenues was to be paid every month to the Resident, Mr. Fowke, who was also to supervise the local treasury office to be set up by the Raja and his *Nairb*, and (v) that the Raja's private expenses were to be paid after meeting all the expenses of administration. *Secret Proceedings*, 30 June 1784, vol 64 A, pp. 1902-10

No. 26—20 August 1784

1. **Charges . against Almas Ally Cawn** (p. 270)—Almas Ali Khan was charged with having entertained a design to rebel against the Nawab Vazir and to seize the artillery at Cawnpore *Secret Proceedings*, 13 July 1784, vol 65, pp 1965, 2009-36.

2 **9th Article of the Treaty of Salbey** (p 271)—According to this article Haidar Ali was to return all territory recently taken from the English and the Nawab of Arcot, and the Peshwa and the English undertook that their several allies should remain at peace with one another.

3 **the fatal Order** (p 279)—This referred to an order by the Select Committee at Fort St George to Col. Fullarton "to declare and evince on your part every disposition to retire and deliver back the places you shall have taken, the moment you shall receive authentic information of Tippoo's having relinquished the hostile design of starving our people at Mangalore, which place is to be delivered to him, when he shall have released and delivered to us all the prisoners taken by him during the war and evacuated the Carnatic" *Secret Proceedings*, 31 December 1783, vol 62 A, pp 6936-37.

4 **barbarous Murder of General Mathews** (p. 279)—In January 1783 Bombay Government equipped an expedition under the command of General Mathews to attack Mangalore and Bednur. His early swift successes were, however, quickly followed by disaster. General Mathews with all his men fell in Tipu's hands. For an account of the manner of his death see para 23, p 301, *ante*

5 **Convention of Cuddalore** (p. 281)—On 24 June 1783 Lord Macartney, having informally learnt from Bombay that preliminaries of

peace had been signed between the belligerents in Europe despatched Sadler and Staunton to Cuddalore to propose immediate cessation of hostilities with the French a course to which Bussy and Suffren agreed. *Love op cit* vol III p 242

6 studied exclusion of the Nabob's Title (p 283)—This was done in disregard of the Supreme Government's instructions dated 14 November 1783 to the President and Select Committee of Fort St George The Nawab resented this omission and Hastings ordered a fresh copy of the treaty to be made and a declaration to be subjoined to it that the Nawab of Arcot being a sovereign of the Carnatic was a party to it But Lord Macartney refused to transmit to Tipu the treaty ratified in this form.

7 Carnatic Payneghaut (p 287)—See note 7 *Letter to Court* 5 July 1784.

8 resign his Office (p 287)—Macartney as a result of his disagreement with the Supreme Government wrote The President who would seem to be the main object of these adverse Pursuits is willing to take upon himself the whole responsibility of declining for the present to participate in the proposed measures from Bengal He is ready to expose himself to suspension *Secret Proceedings* 17 August 1784 vol. 65 p 2380

No 27—13 November 1784

1 Establishments at Burnagore (p 296)—The territorial property of the Dutch in Bengal was confined to Chinsura and Baranagar which had been obtained by gift or rather by possession from the Nawab of Bengal Chinsura Cassimbazar and Patna formed the most profitable centres of trade for them. Kalkingar Datta *The Dutch in Bengal and Bihar* pp 4-5

No 28—13 November 1784

1 Cession of the Guntoor Circar (p 302)—By the treaty of 1768 between the Nizam and the Company it had been agreed that Guntur should remain in the possession of the Nizam's brother Basalat Jang during his lifetime and revert to the English on his death On Basalat Jang's death in 1782 the English claimed Guntur but the Nizam put it off on various pretexts. At last in 1788 the sarkar was ceded to the Company as a result of a firm demand by Lord Cornwallis *Calendar of Persian Correspondence* vol IX pp ix x

2 Some Overtures Agent Napelcund (p 304)—Johnson writing to his government on 7 October 1784 stated Nana has made overtures to me thro his Agent Nchalcund which I have rejected upon a certainty that they cannot be sincere being only intended to draw some answer which would serve his great purpose of creating jealousy between Sindia

& the English." *Secret Proceedings*, I November 1784, vol. 66, pp. 2875-84.

No. 29—8 December 1784.

1. **Conduct of Monsr. Le Roche** (p 307)—Monsieur Le Chevalier de Roche, commander of the French corvette *La Juliette*, had, in his letter dated 26 November 1783, demanded the restoration of the French deserters from the cutter *Lizard*, saying that in the event of their non-restoration he would hold the English responsible for all the damages and losses suffered by the King of France. *Foreign Consultations*, 10 December 1783, nos. 17-19

2. **Mr. Auriol** (p 313)—James Peter Auriol was Secretary to the Fort William Board from 1775 to 1783. He resigned the Company's service and sailed for Europe from Calcutta in December 1783.

3. **Government of Tranquebar** (p 313)—The Danish Governor and Council at Tranquebar. In 1784 the Governor was Mr. Grave and the Council consisted of Messrs. Abbestee, Lichtenstein, Restorff and Walter. *Foreign Proceedings*, 22 June 1784, vol I, pp 335-38

4. **Phirmaun possessed by the Danes** (p 314)—In his letter of 19 June 1784 addressed to the Fort William Board, Mr. O Bie claimed that the Danish East India Company had obtained the "Royal Fermann, granted by the Sovereign of the Country against the Payment of a Lac and Sixty Thousand Rupees." The Danes had "originally established their trade in Bengal in 1698, and paid 30,000 rupees in ten annual instalments for their firman, which was granted them by the Prince Azeem-ud-din, the grandson of the Emperor Aurungzebe". In 1755 they had obtained with the help of Mons Law, the French Agent at Cossimbazar, a *parwana* from the Nawab of Bengal for the erection of a factory at Serampore. *Foreign Proceedings*, 22 June 1784, vol. I, p. 341, W. H Carey, *The Good Old Days of Honorable John Company*, vol. II, pp. 276-77.

No. 30—8 December 1784.

1. **Assassination of Afrasiab Caun** (p 318)—Afrasiab Khan, who after Mirza Najaf Khan's death was created *Amirul-Umara* by Emperor Shah Alam, remained in power from April 1782 to September 1782 when he was supplanted by Mirza Muhammad Shafi and sent off to his *jagir* in the Doab. Muhammad Shafi was murdered in September 1783 by a servant of Muhammad Beg Hamdani at the instance of Afrasiab Khan who was then reinvested as *Amirul-Umara* next month. Thirteen months later, on 2 November 1784, Zainul-Abidin Khan avenged the assassination of his brother Muhammad Shafi by getting Afrasiab Khan murdered. W. Francklin, *The History of the Reign of Shah-Aulum*, pp 103

2. **Kellahdar of Agra** (p 318)—He was an Afghan chief named

Shuja-dil Khan He was the father of the second wife of Nawab Afraiah Khan

3 Should the Marattas actually lay siege to Gingerah (p 321)—In spite of the statement made by Nana Phadnavis on 7 October 1784 to Nurul Din Husain Khan Agent of the Bombay Government at Poona that 'severe punishment was intended Janjira was not attacked by the Marathas due to the interposition of the British The Peshwa however secured the territory from the Sidi in 1791 *Secret Proceedings* 14 December 1784 vol. 85 A p 3362 Aitchison *op cit* vol VII (1909 ed)

No 31—14 January 1785

1 Privileges that were formerly allowed to the Dutch Trade (p 326)—By an agreement signed between the Dutch East India Company and the Nawab of Bengal on 23 August 1700 and guaranteed by the Fort William Council on 22 September 1760 the Dutch were allowed free and uninterrupted trade in Bengal Bihar and Orissa in all articles whatsoever excepting the purchase of Salt Petre of which the Nabob has granted to the English the Exclusive Privilege. Datta *op cit* appendix E pp 178-82

2 Duties on the Settlements (p 330)—The Secret Committee of the Court of Directors was of the view that an entire abolition of the Government Customs in Bengal is the best and perhaps the only complete remedy which can be applied against the various pretensions of the European Factories Sometime later while directing the Fort William Board to afford the Danes 'every due protection in the allowed Trade of the Country the Committee wrote If as a matter of policy, we shall ever adopt the resolution to relinquish the Collection of all Government Customs in Bengal the Danish Nation will in common with others partake of the benefit But we cannot agree that any European Nation shall found a pretension to such an exemption, nor to any deviation from the established regulations of Government, upon a concession made to another Nation as specific matter of Treaty *Secret Letters from Court* 21 July 1786 para 16 1 August 1787 para 36

No 32—17 January 1785

1 Siddis Differences with the Maratta Government (p 334)—These differences as mentioned by the Sidi himself had arisen mainly because of (i) the protection given by the Marathas to Zamrood the fugitive Qiladar of Mutgur and (ii) non payment by them of the Sidi's share of the revenue of the eleven *maahals* or districts in accordance with an old agreement *Secret Consultation* 19 February 1785 appendices M and Q

2 Subjects of Mr Johnson's Letters (p 342)—Johnson's letter dated 30 October 1784 and the Heads of a Plan for a Negotiation with the Nizam's Court enclosed with his letter dated 15 November 1784 are

not traceable among the relevant records in the National Archives of India. In the forwarding letter of the latter date the Resident informed the Fort William Board (i) that the Nizam had sent Iftikhar Khan with presents to Tipu Sultan, (ii) that Nana was moving towards Sindia's "Jaidad or assigned lands" in order to prevent the latter from increasing his power in Northern India, (iii) that the Nizam had been asked by Nana to meet him at Aurangabad, and (iv) that the latter was desirous of establishing "a close connection with the English" *Secret Consultation*, 14 December 1784, no. 27.

3 "a Political Survey of the Northern Circars" (p. 344)—It is a long document printed *in extenso* as appendix 13 to *The Fifth Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Affairs of the East India Company*, ed. W. K. Firminger, vol. I, pp. 1-118.

No 33—31 January 1785.

The Pilgrimages to Guyah (p. 349)—During the later part of the eighteenth century the Governor General often received letters from the Maratha rulers and chiefs requesting exemption from the usual duties for their relatives and others intending to visit Gaya for pilgrimage purpose. Grant of such requests and provision of other necessary facilities was regarded by the English as one of the means whereby they could maintain good relations with the Marathas.

No. 35—3 February 1785.

1. **M. de Countenceau** (p. 357)—On the sudden death of Bussy in January 1785, Coutenceau, next in command, assumed charge as Governor of Pondicherry pending instructions from Paris. He, however, remained in office only till May 1785 when Souillac, whom the French Government had even before the death of Bussy nominated as his successor, arrived at Pondicherry and took up his post. It was during Coutenceau's administration that the negotiations with the Madras Government about the execution of the Treaty of Versailles concluded and most of the French possessions in India were received back from the English in accordance with the terms of that treaty. S P Sen, *op. cit.*, pp. 416-17, 427-28.

No 39—22 February 1785

1. **Constitutional claims** country (p. 373)—In every treaty concluded between the Nawab Vazir and the English prior to 1819 the former was mentioned as "the Vizier of the Empire". The Treaty of Allahabad (1765) even bore the words "Sealed and approved of by the King." The Nawab assumed the title 'King of Oudh' in 1819.

2 a new act of the Legislature (p. 376)—This refers to the Pitt's India Act of 1784. A copy of the Act, enclosed with the Court's letter dated 20 August 1784, was received at Fort William on 25 February 1785. *Public Letter to Court*, 28 February 1785, para. 1.

No 42—25 March 1785

1 Mr John Petrie (p 384)—Mr Petrie completed the work of revising the Standing Regulations in their different Offices of Check and was unemployed thereafter In November 1785 he therefore petitioned for the grant of an allowance of 4 000 *sikka* rupees per annum which the Court of Directors had allowed to their senior officials who had been out of employment *Secret Department of Inspection Consultation* 20 December 1785 no 14.

2 Resolutions (p 389)—With the exception of the resolutions passed by the Board on 20 December 1784 for effecting reduction in military expenses records pertaining to others are not available in the National Archives of India

3 The late Act of India (p 390)—Please see clauses XXXIV and XXXV of the Pitt's India Act of 1784

4 Dr (p 404)—Debtor

No 43—25 March 1785

1 Gyahwals (p 412)—The priests of Gaya who preside over the *sraddha* ceremonies performed by the pilgrims *Gaya District Gazetteer* (1937 ed.) p 317

No 46—29 April 1785

1 The Fort of Agra Ulto (p 422)—According to Major Browne who wrote on 26 March from camp near Agra the Fort of Agra was surrendered to Sindia this afternoon whereas Lt Anderson's letter of 3 April 1785 gives the date of its surrender as 27 March *Browne Correspondence* p 219 *Poona Residency Correspondence* vol I p 21

2 Treaty between Sindia and the Sikhs (p 429)—It was executed at Muttra on 10 May 1785 By it the Sikh chiefs agreed to join Sindia with a force of 5 000 horse and receive therefor a *jagir* of Rs 10 00 000 They also agreed not to collect *rakhi* tax from the territories of Sindia or from the royal lands around Delhi and not to create disturbances in the dominions of the Nawab Vezir and the English *Calendar of Persian Correspondence* vol VII pp 74-75

No 47—16 May 1785

1 Narrative (p 430)—It forms an enclosure to Major Browne's letter dated 20 April 1785 In it the envoy refers among other things, to the advice given to him by Sindia that the Governor General should fall upon Means of Satisfying the Shah for the *Kists* due to him which will be both for the Honour and Advantage of the English To it the Shah added 'I have written and spoken to them for Years to no Purpose' *Browne Correspondence* pp 243-55

No. 48—23 July 1785.

1. whole Correspondence (p. 133)—It consists of 123 letters exchanged between Warren Hastings and Major James Browne, commencing with the former's letter of 20 August 1782 and closing with the latter's letter dated 11 February 1785. These letters are included in the *Browne Correspondence*

2. surrendering the assignment (p. 134)—Objections of the Government of Fort St. George against the surrender of the Carnatic revenue are contained in their letter of 1 June 1785 and in Lord Macartney's personal letter of 20 June wherein he observed, "The Presidency of Fort St. George will be plunged into the utmost distress and confusion, and will soon be compelled from Necessity to resume by force that revenue which they now peaceably possess by another title." The Fort William Board, "after the maturest consideration" of the above representations, "recommended to the administration of Fort St. George to carry the Company's orders relative to the Surrender of the Assignment into Execution without Delay." *Secret Proceedings*, 28 June 1785, vol. 69 A, pp. 1872-90.

3. Sabuce (p. 138)—According to the information received by the Fort William Board from Col. Sir John Cumming, Monsr. Sabuce "a Frenchman said to be of high Rank" had secretly met Mahadji Sindia on the night of 13 April 1785, *Secret Proceedings*, 12 May 1785, vol. 69, pp. 1445-47.

No 49—31 July 1785.

1. Your Governor General.....Pacific System (p. 119)—In his letters dated 3 February 1785 addressed to the principal native rulers, John Macpherson had explained the pacific system laid down in the Pitt's India Act. *Secret Proceedings*, 3 February 1785, vol. 67, pp. 198-209.

2. unfortunate Condition.....Family (p. 158)—According to Mr Willes's report of 24 April 1784, Nawab Muzaffar Jang's territory yielded hardly Rs. 5,00,000, whereas the Nawab Vazir had fixed a tribute of Rs. 4,50,000 on him with the result that "the situation of the Nabob and his Country is more distressful than when he addressed himself for relief in [17] 83 .. the Tribute therefore cannot be fully paid, nor will there be any thing for the subsistence of the Nabob and Family." *Secret Proceedings*, 28 June 1785, vol. 69 A, pp. 1917-19.

No 50—31 July 1785.

1 Lackarage Sunnud (p. 468)—*Lakhraaj* (corruptly *lackarage*, etc.) means rent-free land. *Lakhraaj sanad* is a document conferring grant of such land.

2 Dutch Establishment at Broach (p. 472)—Mr Lewis Cockran, the late British Resident at Broach, wrote on 5 June 1785, "all I can learn is that the Dutch had a Factory here 170 years ago, and upwards, but cannot find on what authority I got hold of an imperfect copy of an

old Phirmaund which was only an order to all officers in the Gnjerat to permit the Doteh to pass with their goods thro their Country without exacting the usual Inland or Rawdaree fees.' *Secret Proceedings* 24 August 1785, vol 69 A p 2080

No 54—25 October 1785

1 The Right of Foreign Ships (p 502)—Though the English East India Company based this right on their holding the *Ducans* and possessing such part of the Right of the Government as is inherent in that Character yet their decision to enforce it was taken as late as 16 June 1777 This was, however always contested by the French who treated it as a national Insult and Ground of War in view of which the Governor General suggested to the Board on 27 September 1785 to permit the French ships to pass unsearched to Chandernagore without the Relinquishment of its Right. *Foreign Proceedings* 8 September 1785 p 285 27 September 1785 pp 319 22

No 55—25 October 1785

1 Morhaira to Zemindars (p 514)—*Mushahara* means a monthly or other periodical pay or allowance In Bengal it was an allowance granted to *zamindars* for collecting the revenue or paid to them from the proceeds of their estates when deprived of the management of them on their own behalf

2 Deputation to Thibet (p 517)—See note 3 *Secret Letter to Court* 5 July 1784

No 56—25 October 1785

1 application which was to the Marattas (p 526)—Referring to the talk Sindia had with him on 5 July 1785 Anderson wrote to the Fort William Board three days later Hostilities had now been commenced and the Ministers of the Peshwa had in consequence urged him [Sindia] in the strongest Terms to call upon us for that Assistance against Tippoo which they conceived we were bound to furnish and of which he had so frequently held out hopes to them *Secret Proceedings* 24 August 1785 vol 69 A pp 2038-59

2 revocation of this grant (p 534)—This was done by a *shukqa* issued by Shah Alam and a letter written by Mahadji Sindia to the Nawab of Surat Copies of the same were delivered to Mr Anderson on 12 August 1785 *Ibid* pp 2069 71

3 a draft of mutual agreement (p 536)—The draft agreement relating to the duties to be levied on the English goods in the district of Broach finalized between Mahadji Sindia and Andersoo was sent by the latter to the Fort William Board on 4 July 1785 It was approved by the Board on 8 September 1785 *Ibid*, pp 2046-58

No 60—31 December 1785.

1. **a New Sett of Regulations** (p. 545)—These regulations consisting of 15 Sections were issued on 10 October 1785. See *Foreign Proceedings*, 10 October 1785, vol 3, pp 352-56.

No 61—9 January 1786

1 **A Treaty had been the Marratta Vakeel** (p. 553)—Nana Phadnavis believed that a new treaty had been concluded between Tipu and the French. It was therefore that the Maratha envoy at Pondicherry publicly remonstrated with the French Governor and accused him of having thereby violated the promises of the King of France to the Peshwa. To convince the envoy about the non-existence of such a treaty the French Governor proposed a closer connection with the Peshwa, a circumstance which greatly offended Tipu. The French envoy at Poona was treated with much attention, and it was believed that the Peshwa's Government had agreed to cede Revadanda to that nation on condition of then not assisting Tipu. Grant Duff, *A History of the Mahrattas*, vol II, p. 171

2. **Timur Shah . . Hindostan** (p 554)—Please see note 2, *Secret Letter from Court*, 21 July 1786, no. 23.

No 62—9 January 1786.

1. **Sir Charles William Blunt** (p. 561)—Joined the East India Company's service as a writer in 1783, appointed agent for supplying bullocks, camels, etc for the army in 1784, became army contractor in 1785, and Postmaster General in 1791. He died at Falta near Calcutta in 1802.

2 **Discharge of the Paper in Circulation** (p 569)—In order to do it in an impartial manner it was decided to prepare a General Register "of all the Company's paper . . . that may be in circulation on 31st December 1785, which Register shall be published. . . ." *Secret Department of Inspection Consultation*, 20 December 1785, no. 1

No 63—9 January 1786

1 **the 13th Article** (p 579)—See note 1, *Secret Letter to Court*, 5 July 1784, no 24. According to the above article Chandernagore was restored to the French on 27 July 1785, but difficulties having arisen in regard to the restoration of the French factories at Balasore, Mohanpur, Khirpai, Canicola (Kaikala?) and Shahpur, the Fort William Council in their various resolutions passed on 8 December 1785 gave further instructions to Mr. Wilton, their commissary for this purpose. *Foreign Proceedings*, 8 December 1785, vol 3, pp 629-44

2 **Regulations for the Buxbunder** (p 579)—The regulations for collecting duties of the *bakhsh bandar*, or custom-house, comprised 15 clauses. Briefly, they provided that all foreign ships after undergoing

the usual check at Budge Budge were to deliver at the custom house manifests of their cargoes before landing. They were to pay a duty of 2½% in case the goods were to be exported. All the foreign companies were permitted to issue their own *dastals* giving details about the goods but these were to be submitted for checking by the Collector of Customs at Budge-Budge. Cargoes without *dastals* or not mentioned in the invoices could be confiscated. The Collector of Customs was to prepare every quarter accounts of the duties payable by the foreign companies. *Foreign Proceedings* 25 October 1785 vol 3 pp 489 92

No. 64—10 January 1786

1 preconcerted Plan (p 595)—In his report dated 10 December 1785 Capt Thomas Kearnan the commander at Budge-Budge stated that the Captain of *L. Esperance* had shown him a paper of Instructions from Monsr. Dangereux directing him to Act as he did. *Foreign Proceedings* 12 December 1785 vol 3 p 703

No. 67—4 February 1786

1 Lieutenant Colonel Cathcart (p 602)—Charles Cathcart (1750-88) joined His Majesty's military establishment in India as a Lt-Col. He was appointed Quartermaster General on 11 December 1782 and became a Colonel sometime after 18 August 1783. He played a prominent part in the storming of the French redoubt near Cuddalore on 13 June 1783 and for his gallantry he was awarded a sword of the value of 100 guineas by the Court of Directors on 10 November 1784. Sometime later he was appointed to lead an embassy to Peking for the purpose of improving commercial relations with China but the plan was dropped due to his sudden death in June 1788. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence* vol VII p 130. *Ross op cit.* vol. I pp 294 331

No. 69—28 February 1786

1 Gardees (p 616)—*Gardis*. The term derived from the word guard in its English, French or Portuguese form was applied to sepoys trained in the European fashion. They formed part of the Maratha infantry but the Marathas proper being usually impatient of control did not care to join this disciplined body. Their corps was mostly composed of north Indians, Pathans, Abyssinians, Arabs and Rajpents whose strength does not appear to have exceeded 5 000. *SN Sen Military Syst m of the Marathas* (1908 ed) pp 65 67. G S Sardesai *op cit* vol III pp 15 16

2 *Lw Sn Rs* 29 585 5 (p 616)—Lucknow *sikka* rupee. From 1770 onwards it was generalised as Oudh *sikka* rupee. *Secret Consultation*, 26 August 1770 no I

No. 73—24 March 1786.

1. **Bengal Bank** (p. 639)—Earliest European Bank in Bengal unconnected with any of the agency houses. The Bank received some sort of government recognition when it was authorised to liquidate bills of military arrears payable in Bengal. Its scheme to remit Bengal Government's revenues to Bombay through its post bills was rendered futile as the Bombay shroffs refused to negotiate such bills. The Bank did not survive the monetary crisis created during war with Tipu and failed completely in November 1791. H. Sinha, *Early European Banking in India*, pp. 5 ff.

No 74—24 March 1786

1 **Prince of Cherrika ... Tipu Sultan** (p. 643)—The Malabar Nayar chiefs of Kottayam, Kadattanad and Chirakkal continued to be vassals of Tipu under the Treaty of Mangalore. As a consequence of alarming reports the Governor General in his letter dated 23 March 1786 represented to Tipu that the Raja of Chirakkal had taken possession of Randattara with the latter's connivance and that the Nayars had hostile designs against Tellicherry. He further requested him not to break the peace and friendly relations that had been so happily established between the two governments. Tipu in his reply dated 5 October 1786 expressed surprise that his name should have been implicated. As desired by the Governor General, he had ordered the Raja to take possession of Randattara which he had mortgaged with the Company, only after paying his debts. See pp. 101-02 *ante*, *Calendar of Persian Correspondence* vol. VII, pp. 159-60, 239-40.

2 **Dejardie** (p. 650)—A Frenchman who had taken lease of some villages belonging to Almas Ali Khan in Farrukhabad District. John Willes, Resident at Farrukhabad, summoned him to answer certain charges, but Dejardie refused to comply. The matter having been reported to the Supreme Council, he was ordered to leave the Nawab's dominions immediately. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII, p. 173.

No. 77—28 August 1786

1. **Arrangement of the Departments** (p. 669)—It was proposed on 31 May 1786 that the Secret Office should consist of the following departments—(i) Secret and Political Department—to deal with all subjects of political nature, (ii) Secret and Military Department—to deal with military subjects, (iii) Secret and Foreign Department—to attend to all transactions with foreign European nations and powers, and (iv) Secret Department of Reform—to function temporarily and effect general retrenchment of expenses in the civil and military services. See also

A Hand Book to the Records of the Government of India in the Imperial Record Department

2 Translation of a Letter Raja of Tanjore (p 875)—The original letter in Marathi addressed by Tuljaji Raja of Tanjore (1763-87) was received in Bengal on 2 July 1786. Apart from complaining against the Nawab of Arcot he pointed out how he had been meeting his financial obligations to the Company. He further affirmed his loyalty towards the Company. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, vol. VII pp 194-97.

3 House of Gopaul Doss (p 897)—The well known members of this family of Benares bankers were Manohar Das, Dwarka Das and Gopal Das. The banking house of Gopal Das had its branches at Calcutta, Murshidabad, Patna, Gaya, Ghazipur, Mirzapur, Allahabad, Lucknow, Bareilly, Jaipur, Nagpur, Surat, Bombay, Poona, Masulipatam, Tanda, Phulpur and Madras and Maratha army agencies at Agra, Delhi, Ahmadabad and Baroda. *Ibid* p. xiv.

No 79—11 November 1786

1 exempt the merchandize Company's Duties (p 760)—This exemption was granted in keeping with the 13th article of the Treaty of Versailles and the Court's instructions of 6 March 1783 which assured the French East India Company freedom, independence and security of commerce. It may be noted however that the 4th article of the provisional trade convention concluded at Mauritius enabled the English to restrict this freedom of trade. The article reads: French trading vessels carrying on Traffic in the English Establishments and English trading vessels carrying on Traffic in the French Establishments, shall be subject reciprocally to the Municipal Duties of the said Establishments. Edmond Gandart, *Les Privilèges du Commerce Français dans l'Inde* pp 8-9. *Foreign Proceedings* 5 July 1786 vol 5, p 174.

2 Off Reckoning Fund (p 782)—The off reckonings were an allowance given to the British officers from the money set apart annually for soldiers' clothing.

No 81—22 December 1786

1 An Historical present time (p 824)—James Grant's first treatise *A Political Survey of the Northern Circars* defining the general principles touching the nature, right and management of the revenue system of Hindostan had been submitted to the Fort William Board in 1781. His second work *An Historical and Comparative Analysis of the Finances of the Soubah of Bengal* issued two years later, is divided into

three parts, the first part covering the period from 1582 to the reign of Muhammad Shah, the second from Farrukhsiyar's reign to the expulsion of Qasim Ali Khan, and the third from the grant of *Diwani* to 1784. James Grant submitted to the Board the first two parts in April 1786 and the third part in December 1786. His another important treatise *Historical and Comparative View of the Revenues of Bengal* was issued in February 1788. W K. Firminger (ed.), *The Fifth Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Affairs of the East India Company*, vol II, pp. 159 ff

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